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JOHN BULL

Vol. X. No. 259. SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1911. ONE PENNY.

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

For meaning of this No. see Page III. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

"JOHN BULL'S"
Companion Publications.

"MRS. BULL"

A LIVE PAPER FOR LIVE WOMEN.

Published Every Tuesday,

ONE PENNY.

"LOTINGA'S WEEKLY"

A REAL PICTORIAL SPORTING JOURNAL.

Published Every Wednesday.

ONE PENNY.

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JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. X. No. 259. Saturday, May 20th, 1911. One Penny.

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All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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FIRST ANNUAL DINNER
TO BE FOLLOWED BY
A SMOKING CONCERT
WILL BE HELD AT
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MONDAY, MAY 22nd, at 7.30 p.m. sharp.

Tickets (Ladies' or Gentlemen's) 2s. 6d. each, to be obtained from the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. D. A. Macdonald, 24, Savile Place, Chapeltown Road, Leeds. All applications for tickets must be received not later than Saturday, 20th May.

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AN EXCURSION
TO
NEWBIGGIN BY THE SEA
HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR
SUNDAY, MAY 28th.

Return Fare, 2s. Train leaves Manors North at 9.50 a.m.

Full particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. W. N. Rice, 141, Strathmore Crescent, Benwell.

DUNDEE BRANCH.

A GRAND MUSICAL CRUISE
ON THE
S.S. "MARCHIONESS OF BUTE."
WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 7th.
HIGH-CLASS PROGRAMME.

Tickets (price 6d.) can be obtained from the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. D. Ballingall, 69, Dens Road, Dundee, and from members of the Committee.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

SOUTH HACKNEY.

The plot thickens—and the Philistines are being delivered into our hands.

MORE LABOUR PROMOTIONS.

Another Labour Member is about to receive a Government appointment. Everyone, in turn, if he will only be patient—and good! And what price Ramsay on the Treasury Bench before long? What a game it is!

THE LAW GUARANTEE SCANDAL.

On another page we give a synopsis of the facts brought to light in the recent libel action, and we agree with the *Pall Mall Gazette* that a full investigation into the affairs of the Society cannot longer be postponed.

WE TOLD YOU SO!

So perhaps we were not so wrong, after all, in opposing the Shops Bill. Here is so loyal a supporter of the Government as Mr. Stuart Samuel, M.P. (brother of the Postmaster-General), writing to the *Jewish Chronicle* that the Shops Bill is causing "grave difficulty" and that the Government are beginning to realise that the measure is not so popular as they thought it would be. When will our Ministers understand that they are not our grandmothers?

DARLING DEFYING THE LIGHTNING.

The funniest of all the funny sights we have ever witnessed in Mr. Justice Darling's Court was during his summing-up in the Ronald case. He had scarcely commenced, when huge peals of thunder and vivid flashes of lightning broke over the Court. Now it is one of his Lordship's standing lines, whenever there is any interruption, to call out sternly, "Usher, stop that noise," and forgetting, for the moment that this particular disturbance was altogether beyond his jurisdiction, he called sternly to the affrighted attendant, "Usher—!"—and then murmured something about pulling down the blinds!

A REAL JUDICIAL WIT.

There can be no doubt, however, that Mr. Justice Darling is a real wit. The best thing we ever heard him say was never reported. It was a dull, dark day, and a raw Junior was addressing the Court upon some very abstruse, and not very relevant, point of law. The Judge listened attentively for several minutes, and then, in the quietest of tones, remarked: "Usher—turn on the light." That will never be beaten.

SUGGESTIVE!

A reader calls our attention to two adjacent contents-bills which he recently saw outside a newsagent's shop. One was "Man, the Mormon," and the other "Linking is Clinking." We must have a word with *Mrs. Bull* about this!

Ministers and Parliament.

It is interesting to recall that the shaping of the present system of Ministerial responsibility to Parliament is due to the suggestion of that arch-scoundrel Robert, Earl of Sunderland, who, after being a minister to Charles II., had retained office throughout almost all the reign of James—not scrupling to comply with the worst tyrannies of his master, and to feign a conversion to the Roman Catholic faith. The ruin of James was no sooner assured than, as Green says, "Sunderland secured pardon and protection from William by the betrayal of the master to whom he had sacrificed his conscience and his honour." After the Revolution, Sunderland retired into the country in order to escape public attention, but, in the political crisis which ensued, he secretly approached the King and counselled him to recognise the new power of the Commons "by choosing Ministers of the Crown exclusively from among the members of the party which was strongest in the Lower House." Of course, up to this time the Ministers had been composed of members of all parties, and were simply the personal servants of the Crown, who dismissed and appointed them, singly and in batches.

Nominating the Board of Trade.

It is worth noting, also, that the House of Commons in 1696—stirred by reforming zeal—besides insisting upon the King compelling his foreign favourites to disgorge the huge grants of land which he had made to them, "claimed the right to name members of the new Board of Trade, established for the regulation of commercial matters." We must ask Mr. Buxton the date of their last assertion of this right. We wonder whether it was during the lifetime of that "Speaker of the Irish Parliament."

Trams Through the Parks?

Some wicked Vandal has actually dared to suggest that we should trespass with tram-lines upon the holy ground of Park Lane. Talk of stretching out the hand of sacrilege against the Ark of the Covenant! That would be a mild, Pleasant Sunday Afternoon sort of business compared to so monstrous an outrage. As we are all aware, Park Lane is not now the preserve of an effete aristocracy. The vulgar intrusion of the people's conveyances there would disturb the privacy and desecrate the sanctity of those powerful pillars of the State, the mighty millionaires, who have brought us blessings from the Tiddler's-grounds of Capel Court, and the ghettoes of Johannesburg. It is true that omnibuses have already effected an unwelcome intrusion, but tram-lines would amount to what is vulgarly called the limit. If the people must get about quickly, why not invade the Royal parks and lay tram-lines there?

Ten-a-penny Postage-stamps.

Sir Joseph Ward, Prime Minister of New Zealand, has been supporting the agitation for universal penny postage. We are all for it—if it can be made to pay. Otherwise, we do not see why the public should be expected to subsidise that irritating class which wastes our time by unnecessary correspondence. In any case, it seems absurd to think that the same charge should be made for conveying a letter from Pall Mall to Pimlico as from Thibet to Timbuctu. Surely it would be more sensible to begin by reducing the postage on short journeys. Why not have ½d. stamps or ¼d. stamps or centime stamps for local use?

A Type of Tactlessness.

A certain firm which sells typewriters begins its advertisement with the words: "A merciful man is merciful to his—typist." Surely it is unwise to call them beasts—especially as they have something to say in the choice of a machine!

Present, Past and Future Speakers.

Apropos of the Speaker's silver wedding, the *Globe* asks if Mr. Lowther's successors will be able to carry on that splendid tradition of being equal arbiters of all. It gloomily says, "We greatly fear they will not. In him the line will close, and his successors will be no more than chairmen appointed to carry out the will of the Government of the day." What nonsense! The successors of Mr. Lowther will represent no "party"—for there will be none. The high standard of Speakers in recent years contrasts forcibly with that in days gone by.

Doughty of Tipton.

Have not the ratepayers of Tipton had enough of the stupendously ridiculous Doughty? He seems to mistake the Urban District Council for a bear garden in which he has special rights to play the bear, and the bore and the boor also. Mr. Doughty was the chief performer in another scene in the Council the other evening. There seems very little to the point in whatever he says, his oratorical stock in trade being personalities and interruptions. We advise the ratepayers of Tipton to elect a Council, when next they have a chance, in which they will get rid of Party Politics altogether and thus eliminate most, at any rate, of the acerbities and fooleries in which the irrepressible Doughty delights his soul.

Hush! Not a Word!

We have before us the *Goodwicke, Fishguard, and North of Pembrokeshire General Advertiser*, otherwise the *County Echo*. "In the future," says our distinguished contemporary, "any person desirous of keeping out of our columns an item of news will be required to pay a sum of money varying with the gravity of his offence and the value of the report from a news standpoint. The minimum fee will be five shillings and all money so received will be divided between the Fishguard Nursing Fund and the Police Orphanage. It will be observed that we have omitted from this issue any report of the last Fishguard Sessions. We have been induced to adopt this course by reason of the innumerable requests which we have received—requests so frequent that, were all complied with, the report would have been of an exceedingly vague and attenuated character. Our system of hush money is, of course, not retrospective, but we trust those who figured at the Town Hall a week ago will appreciate the consideration which we have shown to them, and that the charities to which we have referred will benefit substantially as a consequence."

Pay Up, Shut Up.

In future Fishguard ought to be a most delightful place to live in. At a guess, we should say that for "keeping it out" the tariff of our illustrious contemporary will be about 5s. for a simple drunk and disorderly, 7s. 6d. for knocking a wife about or jumping on a mother-in-law, 15s. for kicking a policeman in the execution of his duty, £1 for attempting to manslaughter one's grandmother, and so on according to the gravity of the offence. We can imagine a daily procession of transgressors rolling up to the editorial sanctum, cash in hand. For a half-crown extra the editor will probably arrange for early doors, and should an alderman or a town councillor fear discovery in the clamorous throng, our genial and philanthropic confrère will doubtless be glad to appoint a private audience for a shilling extra. Henceforth Fishguard will be a town without fear and without reproach; and one of these fine mornings some eminent citizen will murder another eminent citizen and nobody will know who has done the deed. But what would our philanthropic contemporary do if the Nursing Fund and the Police Orphanage declined the proceeds of his glorious inspiration!

Houghton-le-Spring Again.

Recently it occurred to Mr. Morley, the Sanitary Inspector of Houghton-le-Spring, or to the Sanitary Committee, or to both at the same time, that additional assistance was needed for the Inspector's department. Apparently to save the Sanitary Committee of the Rural Council the trouble and expense consequent on advertising the vacancy, the Inspector wrote asking that his son should be appointed Assistant. The Inspector's son being a young man versed in drapery goods, the Committee naturally thought, and they have been confirmed in their opinion by the members of the Council, that he was the right man in the right place. So strong was this feeling that if the young man had served his time with a greengrocer, a cobbler, or a muffin man, he would probably have got the job just as easily.

Mendicant Peers.

Here is a mysterious advertisement :—

> A Peer and Peeress, with quiet tastes, wish to "hob-nob" with a lady or gentleman or married couple, of good social standing, for a few weeks on and off in July, August, and September, in a country house, high and bracing, within an hour by train from London; terms to be agreed in confidence.

What is the precise meaning of hob-nob? In this case it seems to suggest sitting over the hob with a nob and his wife. We should have thought that in these days of Veto Bills and flowing tides of democracy the market in peers and peeresses was a restricted one, but here are a brace of Arcadians still antiquated enough to expect to find snobs anxious to hob-nob with them. The fact that terms are to be arranged in confidence seems almost to imply that money is expected for the privilege of association with the peerage, and we should be interested to know the precise market value of the commodity, particularly as quiet tastes are indicated as an attraction. Seriously, isn't it rather painful to find people, who have presumably been well brought up, touting in the public press for free board and lodging and pocket-money thrown in, as a solatium for deigning to mix with common clay?

A New Tea Trick.

Who shall say that philanthropists are extinct? The Club Tea Company, Market Place, Pontefract, offer to double the savings of their customers. For every pound of 2s. tea, a purchaser has "the privilege of paying 6d. into the Club, to which the Club will add another 6d., thus doubling your savings and crediting your account with 1s." Yes, but what does all this amount to? Only that the Club Tea Company are selling, for 2s. a pound, tea which they could profitably sell at 1s. 6d. Still, the scheme is ingenious, for it enables the promoters to borrow money at 5 per cent. while appearing to be the most generous people on earth.

Parasites on Posters.

Which is the more important: the man who creates a play by the genius of his brain or the mummer who struts about the stage trying to interpret the other's creation? Ask almost any playgoer who wrote the play he saw last night, and he will tell you that he "never noticed the name." For this he has ample excuse, as the author's name is always printed in microscopic type, if indeed it is printed at all, whereas the leading lady or the actor-manager or, most ridiculous of all, the parasitical impresario catches the eyes on every hoarding.

"Blessed Are the Poor."

"A Mere Curate" calls our attention to the stipends of Archdeacon Hall, of the diocese of Ripon:—As Canon, £500; as Archdeacon, £200; as Vicar of Methley, Leeds, £900—"total poverty, £1,600 per annum." Blessed, indeed, are the poor!

The Despised Inventor.

Even patent agents are supposed to live—if only in order to prove that most inventors are cranks, and many of them fools. That idea is not confined to patent agents, however. The British public especially have a way of despising the inventor until he is successful; then even the War Office and the Admiralty may feel interested in him. In addition, this is a country where all inventors have to submit to be rooked as a condition of success. Almost invariably the financing capitalist gets the lion's share for several years. Then the patent-thief comes in, and sets his wits to work to secure everything of value in the invention. The law does not protect the inventor as it should do. If infringers were made to realise by heavy fines, apart from civil damages, that stealing a man's invention, in whole or in part, is equivalent to going through his pockets and robbing him of all he has or leaving him with a sixpence, infringements would be much less frequent than they are.

Cant and Coin.

They are raising a Thanksgiving Fund at Upper Holloway Baptist Chapel. "Many of the contributions have been touching instances of self-denying love," write the pastors in the *Brotherhood and Sisterhood Magazine*. "For instance, the sum of ten shillings was brought by two sisters. These friends had just become entitled to Old Age Pensions, and out of gratitude to the Giver of All Good and supreme devotion to God's House they handed to the pastors the first payments received. Perhaps none of the offerings represents more loving interest than the gift of our two sisters." If anybody else has just got an Old Age Pension in that quarter, he now knows what to do—assuming, of course, he can induce the pastors to accept the money.

Vaccination and Burns.

There is an idea about that the only remaining excuse for vaccination in these days of perfected sanitation is that of providing the medical profession with fees. Even so, it is well to be fair to the doctors, and the statement of Mr. Burns that in the recent epidemic 34 out of 44 cases had been vaccinated would have been fairer if it had been less bald. He should have given the number of re-vaccinated cases which had contracted small-pox, and stated whether in these cases the marks indicated "efficient" vaccination. Nowadays, at any rate, the doctors do not contend that vaccination in infancy gives immunity from small-pox for ever. They now say that what gives immunity, or at any rate makes attacks less severe, is periodical vaccination. From this point of view, therefore, the answer of Mr. Burns is not complete. Whether the additional information sought would in fact qualify the inference he wishes the public to draw, is another matter.

The Scandal of Scaffoldings.

We suppose that if people want to see the Coronation they must put up with the nuisance of having the most interesting parts of London hidden away behind scaffolding, particularly as a fine revenue is derivable from the temporary industry, whereas ancient edifices cost nothing to look at. But we might just as well remember in the corner of our minds that a glimpse of the Royal procession will be all over in a few minutes, whereas the crowds thronging from all parts of the Empire to the metropolis will pass days or weeks of disappointment among the veiled treasures of this great capital. We cannot suggest a remedy, but we wish some limit could be imposed upon the activity of money-grubbers.

The "Arbitration" Sham.

In commenting upon the gush and clap-trap indulged in by the Prime Minister and Mr. Balfour the other day, when speaking at the Mansion House upon the proposed Arbitration treaty between the United States and this country, we said that the Prime Minister misled the country when he told it the treaty would provide for arbitration upon all possible disputes. We said that the American Senate "will in the future, as in the past, have the power to say whether any question shall go to arbitration or not." What purports to be the text of Mr. Taft's arbitration proposals was published in the *Daily News* on May 11th, and assuming it to be correct, the treaty will be a bigger sham than even we anticipated. According to this statement, all classes of disputes are to be referred to Joint Commissions—not to The Hague. The significance of this, of course, lies in the fact that the decisions of The Hague are effective, whereas if Joint Commissions do not agree there is a deadlock, and no machinery for removing it.

Is Treating Always a Corrupt Practice?

In a recent case at the Bankruptcy Court it was suggested to be connivance that the respective solicitors were seen together, evidently on affable terms, on the eve of the petition to the Court. Suppose, for the sake of argument, that this affability translated itself into an exchange of alcoholic refreshment. Would that necessarily prove conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice? Are public duties always incompatible with private friendships? If so, what a terrible amount of connivance and malpractices must go on under the party system. Take the case of Messrs. Churchill and Smith. Their most serious business in life is supposed to involve incessant warfare, opposition, criticism, even denunciation, yet a little bird does whisper that they have sometimes been known to crack a bottle together at a festive board.

Knee-Drill for Leviathans.

While so many people are feeling unhappy about the cruelty involved in the training of performing animals, it seems rather a pity that elephants, dromedaries, and other captive creatures should be worried and starved in order that they may perform the trick of genuflexion in the presence of the King. We feel sure that His Majesty would discourage this silly exhibition if he knew of the methods employed in preparing it. Is it not sufficient for him to know that he will have the spontaneous salutations of his loving subjects without requiring the obeisance of the lower animals?

Mexborough Grand Skating Rink Co.

Probably the shareholders who subscribed the capital thought it "Grand" when in April, 1909, the directors recommended payment of an 80 per cent. dividend after a few months' working. They have a different idea of it now, no doubt, for a Receiver is "in," the capital all gone, £525 owing to sundry creditors, and assets a hundred pairs of skates valued at £5. According to a shareholder, an annual general meeting has never been held and the books have never been audited. This company adds another to the list of skating rink failures which have realised the elusiveness of human hopes and the instability of popular tastes.

Messenger Boys Who May Not Take Messages.

A correspondent recently rang up a messenger boy on the telephone and requested him to go and buy some stamps. He replied that he could not do this, as he was not allowed to take messages. Conversation on the telephone, however, eventually extracted the necessary permission. So we evidently do possess a semi-business Post Office.

An Enterprising Overseer.

It is sufficient for most people that they have to pay their rates once; Mr. Parry, the Assistant Overseer for Waterloo, seems to have an idea that enterprise in his office demands that they should pay twice. A few days ago this gentleman summoned a man in the Liverpool County Magistrates' Court for £11 10s., the amount of the rate for 1909. The defendant said he had paid the rate, but had lost the receipt, the Assistant Overseer having to admit that "in the ratebook was an entry of the payment of the money on February 4th, 1910," and that there was no entry of arrears on the demand note for 1910; also entry of the payment of the rate was "made by the late Assistant Overseer, who is no longer in the employ of the township, having retired owing to ill-health." The magistrates dismissed the case, granting costs to the defendant. "Several similar cases were either adjourned or withdrawn." On the facts disclosed, it is evident that the responsibility to explain is on the late Assistant Overseer. The money having been paid in this and, presumably, in other cases, what has become of it? Who has audited the books? How were they balanced? Did they balance at the time the late Assistant Overseer retired?

Vicar and Sexton.

Wingates is discussing with heat and indignation the resignation of its old sexton, Coop, through the action of the Rev. Gower Jones, vicar of St. John's. Mr. Coop has been parish sexton for fourteen or fifteen years, and is highly respected. A Sunday or two ago the vicar handed to him an agreement to sign. Having taken it home to digest, he informed the reverend gentleman that he could not sign it, and at once tendered his resignation. This the vicar accepted, and immediately appointed his churchwarden to the position. That Mr. Coop refused to sign this extraordinary document does not surprise us at all. As to the duties as laid down for £1 a week, we say nothing, but will it be believed that this gentleman in holy orders not only stipulates in black and white that the sexton should not be paid even for a day's illness, but that he should not, "without first obtaining the express consent of the vicar," enter any hotel or tavern where intoxicating liquors are or may be sold"? We wonder how the vicar would appreciate an Act of Parliament which stopped his stipend every time he was ill, and prohibited him from entering a bun-and-milk emporium without first obtaining the consent of his parishioners?

That Dear Old Dad Again.

Recently there was a vacancy for an assistant clerk in the Clare County Council. On this Council sits Mr. Owen Hegarty, J.P., apparently a gentleman of influence, for entering the Council as another applicant was about to receive the appointment he said, "I propose that my son be elected to the position." The result was that Hegarty junr. was elected to the post. We are not aware whether this is the usual way of things on the Clare County Council, or whether it is the intention of Mr. Hegarty senr. to make a precedent. If the latter, we can see other members of the Council bobbing up to propose their sons, or their brothers, or their grandmothers to any lucrative job which happens to be going. However good this sort of thing may be for the Hegartys, it is certainly far from being desirable in the public service.

Sweating System in the Church.

A Newcastle reader, probably not a very old one, thinks he "will not be appealing to us in vain in asking us to take up the cause of the assistant clergy in the Church of England, whose remuneration is in many cases scarcely above starvation point." But we are always taking it up. The trouble is in getting the episcopal salaries down.

A "PURITAN" M.P.

Mr. King, the member for North Somerset, seems to be always thinking of unpleasant things. He recently introduced, on one day, the two following savoury measures :—

PROCURATION.—Bill to make further provision with respect to the procuration of women and girls; and for other purposes connected therewith.

DISORDERLY HOUSES.—Bill to make further provision with respect to brothels and certain other premises; and for other purposes connected therewith.

A ROYAL CONVERT.

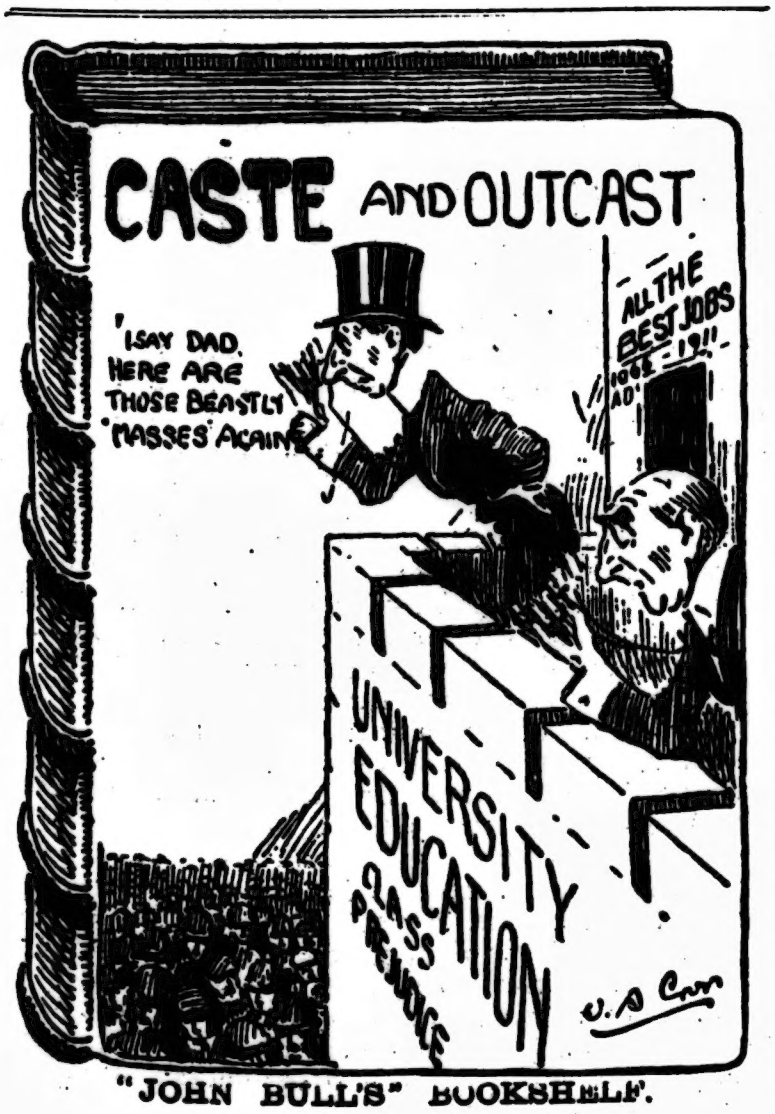
We observe that the German Emperor, in recently addressing a body of students, impressed upon them that "Party was not the main thing, but first and last the prosperity of their country and people." We must take advantage of H.M.'s presence amongst us, and enrol him in the John Bull League.

A CHANNEL STEAMER SUGGESTION.

Passengers from Calais and Dover have long appreciated the luxury of having their hand-baggage examined on board—a couple of British Customs officers travelling with the boat for the purpose. Well, why cannot the French authorities follow this example, and thus avoid the crush and scrimmage and waste of time which now occur at Calais, when every minute is a consideration to the hungry traveller? This is the sort of thing which gives the *entente cordiale* a practical meaning—and we venture to press it upon the French Customs Board.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT" :—

Canadian Emigration Agent, addressing meeting, having enlarged upon the "advantages" to immigrants, admits—apropos of JOHN BULL'S criticisms—that there may be two drawbacks—and only two—the water supply and the class of immigrants. Voice from the hall: "Why, man, that's all the objection there is to Hell!"


CASTE AND OUTCAST
'I SAY DAD, HERE ARE THOSE BEASTLY 'MASSES' AGAIN
ALL THE BEST JOBS GONE AD 19!!
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION
CLASS PREJUDICE
J. A. Carr

"JOHN BULL'S" BOOKSHELF.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

For the following answer to an Inquiry: "SNAILS.—J. T.—*To prevent* THEM *crawling up rose tree stakes,* TAR AND CREOSOTE THEM FOR A SHORT DISTANCE UPWARDS, OR OCCASIONALLY APPLY PARAFFIN,"

LLOYD'S NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an advertisement in "The Cambridge Times" of a sale by auction: "The House contains Bar, Bar Parlour, RAILWAY STATION, *in a rapidly-increasing district,"*

Messrs. FREDERICK GROUNDS and JOSEPH COLLINGWOOD (Auctioneers, March)
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an article on motor ships: "The new ships will be DEVOID *of funnels, so that their* FUNNELS *will add a new and strange feature to the maritime highways of the world,"*

THE BRISTOL EVENING TIMES AND ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "the WELL-KNIT FIGURE *of the man unconsciously* TRAVELLED TO HIS HIP POCKET,'"

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing: "English lady teacher desires Japanese PUPPIES, *four or five to form a class,"*

THE ADVERTISER (Box No. 637 of *The North China Daily News,* Shanghai)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising: "All men fully insured and WEAR *Association* CAPS ONLY,"

THE WOODFORD AND DISTRICT WINDOW CLEANING ASSOCIATION
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "A mirror will be fixed to the SEAT OF EACH PEERESS *in the Abbey at the Coronation in order that she may adjust her coronet properly,"*

THE DAILY EXPRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a taxi-cab punctured "the OFF-NEAR TYRE,"

THE SUTTON HERALD
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in his notes published on April 8th, "Monday first is the AUTUMN *Holiday in Dundee,"*

"RAMBLER" (of the *SATURDAY POST,* Dundee)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "The steamer 'Europa' struck the 'Ferguslie' on the port bow close to the STERN,"

THE LIVERPOOL ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating on a medicine phial: "The Cough Mixture.—Dose.—One teaspoonful to be taken THEN *the cough is troublesome,"*

DR. KNOPH (High Street, Walthamstow)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "A pretty wedding was celebrated at Forbes Reef on December 8th last, when the Rev. C. C. Watts joined in the holy bonds of matrimony Miss Ivy Weston, the charming daughter of MISS *M. F. Weston,"*

THE SWAZILAND OBSERVER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the opening by the King of the Festival of Empire that "Enormous crowds had assembled to welcome their Majesties, the whole of the procession route from Buckingham Palace to SANDRINGHAM *being lined with spectators,"*

THE BOURNEMOUTH DAILY ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

THE LAW GUARANTEE AND TRUST SCANDAL.

NOW THEN, PUBLIC PROSECUTOR!

NO FURTHER EXCUSE FOR OFFICIAL INACTION—REVELATIONS OF THE RECENT TRIAL—MORE FACTS FOR MR. BUXTON.

In our issue of July 16th last year we did our best to respond to the request of Mr. Sydney Buxton, for "new facts" to assist him in determining whether he would be justified in setting in motion the machinery of the Winding-up Department of the Board of Trade, with a view to obtaining a compulsory liquidation of the Law Guarantee and Trust Society, and a public investigation into its affairs. In that article we charged the directors as a body with "crass negligence of their duties," and with concealing from the public the true condition of affairs; we charged the General Manager, Mr. T. R. Ronald, with "at least gross mismanagement"; and we charged his son, Mr. F. J. Ronald, with incompetency and dishonesty in his capacity as Valuer and Surveyor to the Society. We proceeded to give particulars of various transactions in which Mr. Ronald, junr., had been concerned. We also impugned the impartiality of the Shareholders' Committee, and further hinted that the Society had been in a shaky financial position for several years prior to the ultimate collapse—notwithstanding the reassuring statements made at the meetings of shareholders.

MR. F. J. RONALD'S TEMERITY.

We waited patiently for an opportunity of vindicating our charges in a Court of Law, but only Mr. F. J. Ronald had the temerity to institute proceedings. Serving us with a writ for libel, he alleged that our article impugned both his competency and honesty in his capacity as Valuer and Surveyor to the Society. After the law's usual delay, the case at length came on for trial before Mr. Justice Darling and a special jury on Wednesday, April 26th, when we not only adopted Mr. Ronald's interpretation of our article, but took upon ourselves the very onerous burden of justifying it. After a hearing lasting 12 days, and despite the brilliant and almost ferocious advocacy of Sir Edward Carson, the jury found that our charges were true in substance and in fact, with the result that Mr. Ronald not only now stands branded by a jury of his countrymen as an incompetent and dishonest valuer, but also has thrown upon him the whole of the burden of the heavy costs of the protracted trial. As we said in the course of our address to the jury, Mr. Ronald rushed in where wiser men feared to tread, and he must bear the consequences of his rashness. In a sense, we are sorry for him. He was the creature and instrument of circumstances—one of a sordid family group which battened upon the carcase of this unhappy company. For years his methods were the scandal of the valuers' and surveyors' profession; but what others whispered we put boldly into print, taking all risks of those judicial accidents which frequently overtake the most just of causes—and we have won. With that we leave Mr. F. J. Ronald and direct our attention to further prodding the President of the Board of Trade on to action—on the strength of the additional facts now brought to light.

FATHER AND SON.

The first fact we mention is that now proved to demonstration, that from 1896 down to 1909, when the Company collapsed, Mr. T. R. Ronald, the General Manager, and his son, the so-called Valuer, were working hand in hand—parties to a conspiracy to deliberately mislead intending borrowers and others, and to extract fees altogether unjustified by the work done, and which would never have been paid had the true position of affairs been known. To achieve this end they made false representations and fictitious bool entries, and indulged in dishonest correspondence.

We give two specific illustrations. A Manchester firm was proposing certain insurance business to the Society. Young Ronald was standing out for a valuation fee three times greater than had been charged for a similar valuation by an eminent firm, and ultimately after much haggling came down to 60 guineas as the lowest amount he would accept. At this time he was the salaried servant of the Society, concealing the fact that the whole of his fees, less expenses, went to the Company (we say less expenses for a reason which will appear later). The Manchester firm, however, would not agree to the reduced figure, and in the end T. R. Ronald, General Manager, with the full cognisance and acquiescence of Mr. F. J. Ronald, his son, wrote to the firm to the effect that if they would pay 45 guineas, the Society would itself pay Mr. Ronald the odd 15, to enable the business to go through. These terms were ultimately accepted, and Mr. Ronald's receipt, now in our own possession, states in express terms that 15 guineas is to be paid him by the Society, and, to keep up the fraud, Mr. T. R. Ronald actually sends a cheque for 15 guineas to his son, which is at once placedback to the credit of the Society! A clear, unadulterated case of obtaining money by false pretences, and rendering the parties to it liable to a criminal prosecution. *What does Mr. Buxton think of this?*

The other instance is that of a firm who were complaining strongly of the fees quoted by Mr. F. J. Ronald, and expressing a suspicion that in some way or other the Society was participating in them. Whereupon, despite the fact that Mr. F. J. Ronald was simply a salaried servant, and that, according to his own evidence, all the fees went to the Society, he writes to his father telling him that the firm in question might be "assured" that having regard to his moderate scale of fees, the Society would reap no benefit from any such participation "*did it exist*"! *What does Mr. Buxton think of this?*

A 200-GUINEA VALUATION.

In the year 1905 the Society was asked to guarantee certain debentures of the Waldorf Hotel, then about to be built. A valuation of the property, on the basis of a going and profitable concern, had already been made for the promoting syndicate by Messrs. Weatherall and Green, who had arrived at the figure of £420,000. Mr. F. J. Ronald was asked by his father to confirm this valuation on behalf of the Society, and a fee of 200 guineas was charged for his report. What did he do? Instead of bearing in mind that, whereas Weatherall and Green's valuation was for the purpose of a prospectus of a Company proposing to build and work the hotel, and instead of omitting all items relating to such things as goodwill and profits (which would, of course, be no asset to the Society in the case of failure), instead of taking the furniture at a purely nominal sum, and valuing the land and buildings on the hypothesis of a forced sale, this precious valuer makes an appointment to meet Weatherall and Green, goes to lunch with one of the partners, and after "studying the plans," indulges in a variety of calculations, with a view to arriving at their figure. He takes the furniture at *cost price*, and although the lease had only just been granted by the Duke of Bedford, assumes the ground rent of £8,500 per annum to be insufficient

and improves it by £2,750, making a total ground rent of £11,250, which he capitalises at 15 years' purchase; takes 5 years' purchase of the *estimated profits*, and then by this grotesque process arrives at the total of £415,000, or £5,000 short of Weatherall and Green's figures. What does he do then? Would it be believed he makes a note to the effect that he has taken the furniture at a low figure (although he has taken the total estimated cost as given him by the contractors) and then suggests that the deficit of £5,000 might be added to this item, thus bringing his figures into harmony with those of Weatherall and Green! Bad enough in all conscience—considering that he was valuing for a guaranteeing society liable for the principal and interest of the debentures in the event of failure of the hotel. But the worst has yet to come. When we examined the figures we found that Mr. Ronald had actually made a mistake of £9,000 in his addition, so that after capitalising estimated profits of an unbuilt hotel, capitalising an assumed improved ground rent, and taking the furniture at cost price, and then adding £5,000 to it, he was still—although he did not know it—short of Weatherall and Green's figures by £9,000; and he writes to the Society that he has "no hesitation in confirming" Weatherall and Green's valuation and charges 200 guineas for his report. *What does Mr. Buxton think of this?*

FINANCIAL RELATIONS.

And now a word as to the financial relations between young Ronald and the Society. According to his evidence, the Survey Department—although carried on in different offices, and notwithstanding that in all advertisements and other official documents Mr. Ronald was held out as an independent surveyor and valuer, negotiating for and collecting large professional fees—was a mere branch of the Society's business, he being a salaried servant. In the early stages of the case, a great point was made of the fact that all the profits of this department went to the Company. Will it be believed that, although in the last three years the gross profits were, approximately, £10,500, £12,000 and £14,500, not a single penny was paid over by Mr. Ronald to the Society—expenses taking up practically the whole of the income? In addition, Mr. Ronald drew in each of those years, in one way and another, something like £2,500 by way of salary, commission, etc. Most remarkable of all, however, is the fact that this arrangement—under which something like £100,000 a year passed through Ronald's hands, and several thousand pounds was invariably in his possession—is not, so far as can be ascertained, recorded in any Agreement, Minute, or letter. *What does Mr. Buxton think of this?*

THE DIRECTORS' NEGLIGENCE.

Incidentally, the case threw some light upon this point. Two directors, Mr. Maples and Mr. Rawle, were called. Mr. Maples failed to explain any of the matters referred to above, and admitted that in the last year of the Company's active business he reduced his holding of shares—first placing them in the name of a friend "in order that it would not be thought that a director was selling." In passing, we may also mention that it transpired that £200 worth, nominal value, of shares were in young Ronald's name for several years, although the dividends were paid direct to his father, and he had no kind of interest in them—the only explanation he could vouchsafe being that they were probably put in his name to enable him—the official Surveyor and Valuer to the Company!—to attend the meetings of shareholders. Mr. Rawle admitted that he was unaware that Mr. Ronald had occupied one of the principal flats belonging to the Society, rent free; whilst as regards the valuations made by Ronald and others, he thought all valuations were a matter of guess work, and that none, in time of trouble, was worth the paper it was written on! *What does Mr. Buxton think of this?*

THE LIQUIDATOR AND MR. RONALD.

Finally, we elicited some remarkable facts as to Mr. Ronald's financial dealings with the Society, both immediately before and after its collapse. On the day before the notice of liquidation went out, he collected from the Society about £2,000 on account of Commissions, in addition to upwards of £3,000 more received by him during the last quarter of the year, notwithstanding the fact that in no previous year had the Company paid him any substantial sums after September. At the date of the liquidation he had several thousand pounds in hand, his excuse being that he was under various liabilities on behalf of the Society. At the same time, he stated that he had no suspicion that anything was wrong, and was quite surprised when he saw the notice of liquidation. But that is not all. Immediately after the liquidation he received several thousand more pounds, and is still, apparently, working hand in hand with the liquidator—occupying the same offices, using the same furniture, and having the benefit of all the goodwill of the business built up at the expense of the Society. As regards the sum in hand, he says that his solicitor is making various claims on his behalf, and that in the meantime he has handed nothing over. *What does Mr. Buxton think of this?*

We have said enough to indicate that this trial has immensely strengthened the case for a searching public enquiry, and we join with our contemporary, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, in an appeal to Mr. Buxton to put an end to the scandal of official inactivity in the matter.

QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

To-day (Thursday) Mr. Bottomley will ask the President of the Board of Trade:—

> Whether, in view of facts recently disclosed in the law courts relating to the affairs of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society, Limited, he will reconsider the question of taking the necessary steps to secure a compulsory winding-up and a public investigation into the affairs of that Company.

Mr. Buxton's reply will be awaited with interest.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Owing to the space occupied by our article on the Law Guarantee Scandal, a further reference to the methods of the Prudential Assurance Company is held over. We may mention, however, that we are not only arranging to reprint a million copies of our articles, in pamphlet form, but also to establish an Advice Department for Policy Holders, who will be invited to send up their policies for inspection, with a view to our own solicitors taking the necessary steps to recover the premiums paid upon illegal and irregular insurances, and also to secure to insured persons the full benefits to which they are entitled. We have already examined a large number of Policies, and found them to be legally worthless—and the first batch of writs will be issued in a few days' time.

HOW THE DIRECTORS DEAL WITH ENQUIRIES.

Mr. F. Tugwell, of 16, High Street, Farncombe, recently wrote to Mr. W. E. Horne, M.P., one of the Directors of the Prudential Company:—

> As one of your constituents I shall be interested to know what steps you propose to take in regard to the serious charges brought against the Prudential Assurance Company by Mr. H. Bottomley, M.P., of which Company I believe you are one of the directors.

Instead of a reply from Mr. Horne, the following came from Mr. A. C. Thompson, Joint Manager:—

> Your communication of the 17th instant addressed to Mr. Horne has been handed to me, and I have to inform you that the Company's high reputation and unquestionable ability to meet all its obligations, places it quite above any criticisms of the kind in question.

We have read something of that kind before!

THE EDINBURGH DISASTER.

ITS LESSONS AND WARNINGS.

The dreadful fire at the Empire Music Hall in Edinburgh, in which brave men and timid children met with one frightful fate, raises an important question that demands immediate and serious attention. This is the matter of inflammable scenery and properties. When the flames burst out on the stage, turning the place into a furnace in a few seconds, it was only the heroism of the orchestra and the pluck and nerve of a vast audience, who filed out without panic, that averted even more dread disaster and a longer roll of death. That it should be possible for such a fire to occur on an open stage in this period of stringent regulations and precautionary rules is little short of a public scandal. The daily papers—some of them—take pride in stating that such a thing could not occur in London. Says the *Morning Leader*, "The disaster would have been impossible in London." The reason alleged for this is that one of the rules of the L.C.C. lays it down that "all scenery, wings, skyborders, cloths, draperies, gauze, floral decorations, properties, hangings, curtains, etc., whether on the stage, in the auditorium, or in other parts of the premises, must be rendered and maintained non-inflammable." It is argued from this that all the London halls are safe.

A Warning to London.

But this is not the case. London is no safer than was Edinburgh. What happened in Edinburgh might easily happen here. For this is the point that has to be taken into consideration, and that promptly. It is idle for a music-hall to make its own scenery, etc., non-inflammable, and then to permit an artiste to fill the stage twice nightly with highly inflammable scenery, properties, and naked lights. Poor Lafayette was on a long tour, and Edinburgh was but one city on his route. The tour commenced last December, and among the halls visited were at least two under the control of the L.C.C., those being the London Coliseum and the Empire Music Hall at Shepherd's Bush. Is it not a fact that Lafayette at these London halls played and produced the same sketch, "The Lion's Bride," as he did with such fatal results at Edinburgh? Is it not a fact that the same inflammable scenery, properties, dresses, and effects were actually used on those London stages? What becomes, then, of the complacent statement that such a disaster is "impossible in London"?

Prompt Measures Necessary.

London cannot afford to stand still, patting itself on the back, and saying, "We manage things differently, and there can't be a fire on any one of our stages." That is sheer nonsense. The danger is still great and imminent in London, the peril is just the same, in spite of the rules of the L.C.C. A hall may treat its own scenery and properties so as to render them non-inflammable, but the proceeding is sheer wase of time and abject foolery if some sketch artist is allowed to fill the stage, to crowd it from side to side and from front to back, with highly inflammable scenes, cloths, decorations, and other properties. The L.C.C. must extend its rule and prohibit the bringing upon any stage of any such dangerous materials as were so sumptuously and lavishly employed by "The Great Lafayette." As matters are at present, with performers carrying their own unsafe, gauzy, inflammable properties, what has happened in Edinburgh may happen in London. The L.C.C. must move, and quickly.

JUDGE WILLIS.

Referring to our recent remarks upon this eccentric gentleman, the managing director of a large firm writes to us as below:—

> As a matter of fact, Willis has driven all the serious business from the Court during the two years he has been sitting, and neither solicitor nor barrister will willingly appear before him. This is probably a more serious matter than a like man in the Higher Court, because most of the plaintiffs at Southwark are traders, who are obliged to use this particular Court.

When at the bar, Mr. Willis made himself ridiculous by his references to Oliver Cromwell, but we do not know that they did any harm. They were simply silly.

ENGLAND IN EGYPT.

SIR ELDON GORST'S REPORT.

No one who has followed the course of the British occupation in Egypt, who remembers the pledges given to Europe and the Egyptians, and who believes that both the honour and interest of this country require that we should work for withdrawal, can read Sir Eldon Gorst's Report, just issued, without misgiving. In his first sentence he complains of "the rejection of the Suez Canal scheme by the General Assembly without genuine discussion as an indication of violent Anglophobia." This is language better suited to the Anglo-Egyptian press than a grave State paper. The General Assembly refused to sanction the proposed extension of the Suez Canal Concession for another forty years for the consideration offered, and the Assembly would have been false to their trust if they had not opposed it. The present Convention does not expire until 1968. One would have thought that twenty years hence would have been time enough to begin to think of discussing the renewal of a Convention that even then would have 37 years to run. Sir Eldon Gorst can see nothing in the determined opposition of the General Assembly but "an indication of violent Anglophobia." The Report presented to the Assembly by the Committee charged with the examination of the scheme is a most able document, which demonstrates how Sir Eldon Gorst proposed to sacrifice the permanent interests of Egypt for the sake of a present financial relief that would be given to the Government of Egypt. Sir Edward Grey has refused to have the Report translated for presentation to Parliament. It is a long document, the translation and reprinting would mean "considerable expense," and Sir Edward Grey does not think it worth it. Let any of our readers interested in the subject turn to the Report as it stands, and they will see for themselves that, far from this being the truth, it is a masterly document which ought to be in the hands of every Member of Parliament.

It is now more than a quarter of a century since the late Lord Dufferin drew up a scheme of representative institutions for Egypt. He created a Legislative Council and a General Assembly which, though not really representative of the country, are the only organs possessed by Egypt which can give a non-official opinion. "We desired," wrote Lord Dufferin to Lord Granville in 1888, "that the Egyptian people should live their own lives and administer their own Government unimpeded by any external anxieties and pre-occupations." Soon after succeeding Lord Cromer, Sir Eldon Gorst enlarged the powers of the Council, but the concessions were more apparent than real. Sir Eldon Gorst described them as "modest and not adventurous steps to further our expressed intentions" to give the Egyptians self-government. But the Council and the Assembly do not see eye to eye with the Consul-General, and he has come to the conclusion that "the policy of ruling this country (Egypt) in co-operation with native ministers is at the present time incompatible with that of encouraging the development of so-called representative institutions." Yet elsewhere Sir Eldon Gorst is compelled to admit that the Council has done good work, more especially in the domain of education.

Under the head of "Penal Legislation," Sir Eldon Gorst describes the passing of "two criminal laws of considerable importance," one concerning the trial of Press offences, the other containing sundry modifications of the Criminal code. He has, in fact, revived the old Press law, which was issued in 1881 under the Dual Control, was only applied once or twice by the Government, and was described by the Alexandria correspondent of *The Times* as "so stringent that it has worked its own remedy; too ridiculous to enforce, it has been totally ignored by all alike." Under the Law as it stands, papers may be suppressed by a simple order of the Minister after two warnings, or by the Council of Ministers without any warning at all. It is on a par with the law of July 4th, 1909, which enables dangerous characters, without having committed any definite offence, to be subjected to police supervision, and to be required to give security for their good behaviour, failing which they may be deported to selected places in Egyptian territory for the period of their supervision. The same precautionary measure is applied to persons who have been acquitted by the Assize Courts for "want of sufficient evidence"!

BAD LUCK.

SOME NOTORIOUS SERVANT-FRIGHTENERS TRY A NEW TRICK.

A servant girl sends us her experience of Luck and Co., Bedford, against whom, under this name and the alias of the Osborne Company, Bedford, we have frequently warned readers.

Two months ago an area tout called from Luck's, selling "jewellery"—as she describes it, "nearly throwing it at" her. She finally consented to take a bracelet—priced at 50s., although of lighter weight than a little ring—and to pay 6s. monthly for it. A week later the same man called and said she was to give it him back, and, after a little quarrelling, she did so. Now Luck and Co. keep writing her for instalments, saying they never sent for the article in question. As a final threat, they say they are getting out a warrant to arrest the girl, and she is, naturally, alarmed. We advise her to take no notice of the threats—magistrates usually express their opinion of such transactions in very candid terms—nearly as candidly as we ourselves do.

CORONATION FIREWORKS.

MESSRS. PAIN AND THE BONFIRES COMMITTEE.

Our attention has been directed to a circular sent out by the Central Coronation Bonfires Committee, of which Lord Morpeth is Chairman, and on which figure a score of members of Parliament. The Committee has for its object to enlist the sympathies of the Counties and Boroughs of the United Kingdom in a bonfire scheme in honour of the Coronation of King George V., and it has sent out a circular intimating that special arrangements have been made with Messrs. James Pain and Sons to supply all Bonfire Committees at a discount of 25 per cent. on their rockets and coloured fires, and a further 15 per cent. reduction on orders which are sent on or before June 1st.

A provincial firm in this line of business writes to us to ask why a single firework concern should have the monopoly of the supply and free advertisement. We agree that it would be more equitable to have the names of a number of firework makers on the circular. There are only about eight or ten in the trade. What do the Committee say to it?

WHERE ARE THE POLICE?

SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE IS NOT SAUCE FOR THE GANDER.

We take the following advertisement from an evening paper:—

> YOUNG lady wanted, to learn pleasant, light, lucrative profession; £1 per week salary during tuition; guaranteed minimum of £1 5s. when proficient; premium of £50 required.—Naida, 359, Walworth Road, S.E. No letters.

On enquiry at the premises we found the charming "Naida." She repudiated responsibility for the insertion of the advertisement, and referred us to "The Manager" for any information we might require. When we found him in another room, he informed us that "Naida" was his wife, and that he required a young lady to learn palmistry—that there was plenty of money to be made at the game, etc. It will be remembered that a day or two ago a London stipendiary magistrate, in fining heavily an old woman who called at back doors and obtained money from servant girls by the pretence of fortune telling, strongly expressed his opinion regarding the action of the police in permitting people, slightly higher in the social scale, to carry on regular businesses of this description. What would he say were he told that someone was openly charging money for teaching how to break the law?

"IS CANADA WORTH KEEPING?"

Owing to pressure upon our space, a further article upon this subject has been held over until next week.

AN OBJECTIONABLE CIRCULAR.

INTIMIDATING EMPLOYEES.

Dudley has a branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, and this branch has been struggling with a burdensome debt caused by the purchase and improvement of the Town Hall Tavern for the future home of the Association. The committee have now decided to do their utmost to pay off the debt, and for this and other purposes an effort is being made to raise £2,000. Now the President of the Dudley Branch of the Association is Mr. Edward Smith, the Managing Director of Grainger Smith, Ltd., of Dudley. Mr. Smith is a prominent kill-joy, who is very much interested in the Y.M.C.A. The Campaign Secretary of the Association, Mr. A. H. Johnson, has addressed a letter to the employees of Grainger Smith, Ltd., inviting them to subscribe to the fund, and we quote the following from this appeal:—

> You will readily realise the importance the most generous offer of your Managing Director, Mr. E. Smith, to give a like sum as that given by the whole of the staff, will have upon the raising of the £2,000 required immediately to secure Priory House for the future home of the Y.M.C.A. in Dudley.
>
> Mr. Smith asked me at the conclusion of the meeting to submit an entire list of the staff with their promises. This we are anxious to do by Monday evening at the latest.

In our judgment this is a most objectionable communication. Just consider—an "entire list of the staff with their promises" is to be put before Mr. Smith. What is the object of this intimation? It can have only one object, and that is to make it clear to the employees that Mr. Smith will scan closely the names of those who promise to subscribe to the fund and the amount they give. We need not dwell upon the way in which the employees will read this intimation. In our opinion it is little short of scandalous that Mr. Smith should take advantage of his position to induce his employees, under a veiled threat, to subscribe to what we have no doubt is a good object, but good object or not, should not be forced upon those who may be unwilling to assist.

CHIN CHIN!

A CHERTSEY CHARLATAN.

There seem to be no limit to the vagaries of Bumbledom. We lately drew attention to the water supply of a school where the children ran a risk of drinking decomposed corpses out of a bucket. Now the Chertsey Guardians have gone to the opposite extreme. As the workhouse was insufficiently provided with the impotent liquid, it was solemnly decided to have recourse to the mediæval superstition of water-divining.

A Mrs. Chinchen, whose name suggests a toast rather than water, was invited to walk about the grounds of the institution carrying a triangular piece of hazel-twig. When the twig began to twist and quiver, she announced that her quest was ended, and the credulous Guardians immediately ordered that digging should begin there. Imagine such mumbo-jumbo, hocus-pocus being deliberately encouraged by the elected representatives of the people in the twentieth century! It is either pretence at supernatural powers or shameless trickery. There have been cases when the operator made the twig jump about, and the dupes proceeded to dig to a great depth all in vain. On some occasions, no doubt, the magic has been apparently successful. Then, however, shrewd observers have noted the fact that the twig only became agitated when the diviner discovered natural indications pointing to the probability of water. Certain plants and certain conditions of the soil often suffice for the purpose, and a diviner, like a bone-setter, may sometimes succeed where scientists would be at a loss.

Really, the good people of Chertsey must see to it that they are no longer represented by a pack of old women.

"TEA-LEAVES AND TEA THIEVES.

An important article, of great interest to all housewives, will appear in next week's

MRS. BULL.

AN IMPUDENT LIAR.

MR. TAVERNER AND HIS NATIONAL OLD AGE PENSION TRUST.

Our contemporary *Truth*, which, like ourselves, has dealt faithfully with Mr. William Taverner, of National Old Age Pension Trust notoriety, publishes a letter from that person dated April 24th last, and addressed to one of his agents in the Orkneys. Mr. Taverner has been very active in the Orkney and Shetland Islands during the last six months, doing his best to induce the islanders to join his so-called Trust, and indulging in the grossest misstatements in order to persuade them to do so. Almost immediately after Mr. Taverner's first attempts upon the islanders we warned them to have nothing to do with him, or his Trust, and we have since repeated the warning.

Unfortunately, however, there is reason to believe that Mr. Taverner has raked in considerable sums of money from the various islands. In the letter published in *Truth*, Mr. Taverner refers to *Truth's* criticisms and says that our contemporary "has had to admit that his figures are all wrong." There is, of course, no truth in that statement. Not content with it, Mr. Taverner goes on to refer to JOHN BULL, and this is what he says about ourselves, "As for JOHN BULL, Mr. Bottomley last December expressed regret for the untruthful statements, and gave an undertaking that nothing more should be said against the Trust. Surely a man like Mr. Bottomley would not give that promise unless he was satisfied he was wrong in the past." There is not a word of truth in that statement. Our position as to Mr. Taverner and his Trust has never varied. We have dealt with him from time to time ever since JOHN BULL was first published. We have always said the same thing about him and his Trust in reply to the many persons who have asked us whether they would be well advised in subscribing to it. We have said that in our opinion they would be very foolish to send Mr. Taverner a penny piece, and we have given them that opinion because, as we have told them, we do not believe he can carry out what he undertakes to do in the way of Pension. And from the outset we have said, what we say now, that we believe he is promising what he cannot perform, but that we shall be quite ready to reconsider our opinion if and when he places before us the report of an actuary of repute who has examined the scheme, and says that in his judgment it is a sound and workable one. Mr. Taverner has not obtained any such actuarial report, and, until he does so, as we have told him time and again, we shall advise all our readers who consult us on the subject to have nothing to do with the Trust.

Some years ago, we described Mr. Taverner's dealings with a gentleman who was persuaded to associate himself with him in his scheme. We told how this gentleman had been jockeyed, and we quoted from the judgment of one of the judges of the High Court, namely, Mr. Justice Kekewich, who described Mr. Taverner's evidence in the box as "full of inaccuracies and hopelessly untrustworthy," which, put in other words, means that in the opinion of the Judge, Mr. Taverner committed perjury in the box. He is an impudent charlatan.

EXIT THE MILITARY CIRCUS.

A WORD WITH ITS FIGUREHEAD.

Our article on the United Service Tournament has served its purpose. The prospectus will not be issued. So far, so good. Now, just a final word to the gentlemen who pulled the strings. Hundreds of reservists have for months been befooled. They were promised employment, and they lived in hopes. A military band of 45 performers have also been kept hanging about for a matter of six months.

The show was an impossibility from the very start. Thomas Montague Sylvester, the general manager, and ex-circus rider, must indeed be laughing up his sleeve that he was able to dupe so many Army officers. We suppose also that he is not over pleased with us for stepping in and preventing him roping in the public also. There we may leave him for the present.

Now a word with the figurehead—Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. Burn, of the Indian Army. Those officers who have lost both time and money in this crazy scheme certainly have a grievance against him, as without his name being connected with it, the whole thing would have been laughed out of court from the very commencement.

INNOCENCE AT ETON.

THE HEADMASTER ON CHARITY.

The Headmaster of Eton points out as "an extraordinary fact" that the number of people who subscribe to public charities does not exceed five thousand. You see the names over and over again in subscription lists, some actuated by a craving for advertisement; others by the hope of eventually obtaining a title; a few, no doubt, by a helpless, lazy desire to do good without effort.

Having patted the worthy pedagogue on the back for his discovery, we must now quarrel with his conclusion that the open-handed five thousand bear all the heat and burden of benevolence. Surely there are other thousands who obey the Scriptural injunction to preserve secrecy between the doings of their right and left hands. Mr. Lyttelton, for instance, does not seem to have heard of the amazing charity lavished by the poor upon one another. He talks airily and contemptuously of the "vast multitude never molested by any begging letters." Evidently he imagines that it is a duty to respond to such appeals as though the best and most deserving unfortunates ever had recourse to mendicancy.

Mr. Lyttelton actually asserts that people nowadays "give a vast deal more in wedding presents than their forefathers did," whereas many a honeymooner will tell you that he received only the trumpery little knicknacks, and the kind of "ornaments" which used to serve for the marriage of a housemaid.

A STRANGE APPOINTMENT.

COLONEL MORGAN AS "MESS ADVISER"!

The Army Council has won an unenviable notoriety in relation to its appointments. Many of them smack of rank jobbery. The latest of these indefensible nominations is that of Colonel H. G. Morgan, appointed Mess Adviser at the War Office. What a Mess Adviser is we do not pretend to know. We have asked several officers, and not one of them knows. It has never been heard of in the British Army—or for that matter in any other Army to our knowledge—until now. It is one of the many new appointments. We have heard it said that the duties of the Mess Adviser will consist of checking the mess accounts of the various regiments and frowning upon extravagance. We do not know how that may be, what we know is that Colonel Morgan has been appointed to the position. Members of the House of Commons questioned Mr. Acland upon it. His reply was that Colonel Morgan is better qualified than anyone else to do the work. "Are there not," asked Captain Clive, "any other officers qualified for this work?" and Mr. Acland answered, "No, sir, that is exactly the point. It is the fact that he can do this work better than anybody else." Does Mr. Acland really think that sensible men in the House of Commons, or out of it, will believe that? Does he really think, for instance, that Colonel Morgan is better qualified to deal with Mess affairs than Lieut.-Colonel Newnham-Davis, King Edward's adviser on matters relating to Army Messing?

Who is Colonel Morgan? He is an officer who, after the South African War, was found guilty, to use Mr. Acland's own words, of "undoubted culpability under the Army Regulations." It may be remembered that he was charged with irregularities in connection with Army stores. He arranged for his brother's employment at a large salary, contrary to the spirit and letter of the King's Regulations. His brother was in the habit of buying oats from the Army and reselling them to the Army at a profit of something like £1 per quarter. There was no evidence to show that Colonel Morgan was corrupt, and we are not suggesting that he was personally corrupt, but there was ample evidence of irregular conduct to justify the action of the Army authorities in retiring him. For the last ten years he has been on pension. And it is this man, who for ten years has been off the active list owing to the finding of the Royal Commission that he acted "contrary to the spirit and letter of the King's Regulations," who has been appointed to the new office of Mess Adviser, and who Mr. Acland has the courage to say is the only man in the Army fit for the post!

For pictorial descriptions of all the Sports of the Week see *LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.*

BACK-DOOR SETTLEMENTS

A WORD WITH THE L.C.C.

Mr. P. A. Mence, of Banstead House, Balham, sends us some correspondence he has had with the L.C.C. in consequence of an accident which occurred to one of his servants. On February 17th last Maud Street, aged 19, joined a Merton car at 9.15 p.m., at Clapham Road station. At Bedford Hill, an optional stopping place, Miss Street wished to alight. The driver appears to have disregarded the conductor's signal to stop. The latter, however, indicated that Miss Street could safely alight, but in doing so she fell. Mr. Mence saw the girl on her arrival at his house in a very shaken condition, and next morning she complained of much pain.

Thereupon Mr. Mence wrote to Mr. A. C. C. Fell, Chief Officer of the London Tramways, suggesting that he should at once arrange for a medical man to see the girl on the Council's behalf. Accordingly a medical man called and asked a number of questions in no way appertaining to the medical aspect of the case, but apparently bearing on the responsibility of the L.C.C. for the accident. On February 23rd Mr. Mence wrote again to ask what the Council proposed to do in the matter, when he was informed by Mr. Fell that the case had been settled. Upon enquiry Mr. Mence found that the Council had adopted the very objectionable method of sending an emissary into his house by the back door at a time when he was not likely to be at home, and that this person had obtained, by means of a plausible statement made to a young and inexperienced girl of 19, a full discharge as to liability, the consideration being the payment of one sovereign.

It is not without interest to note that Mr. A. C. C. Fell, who conducted the correspondence with Mr. Mence, has recently had his salary increased from £1,750 to £1,875 a year, and as from April 1st, 1912, to £2,000 a year, the reason given for these very substantial increases being Mr. Fell's organising powers, tact, and capacity for command. There is another officer who appeared in the matter, namely, Captain A. Owen, who is the Superintendent of the Claims Department. It may be of interest to mention that this gentleman, who is placed in charge of technical business negotiations requiring much tact and judgment, was at one time the Superintendent of the now obsolete penny steamers of the L.C.C., and previously, as we are informed, he was master of the City of London Cattle boat running between Deptford and Tilbury. Before that he was the much esteemed master of the "Marguerite" Excursion steamer.

A GROWL FROM GIBRALTAR.

A LITTLE BIT OF FLUFF.

Scarcely a week passes that some dozen soldiers or so do not complain to us about the tomfoolery of "Church parade." This mail we get half-a-dozen letters from members of an Engineer Corps at Gibraltar. Six grown-up men have been condemned to answer their names to the sergeant of the guard every half-hour, from 2 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.—their heinous offence being that they had a little fluff sticking to their trousers on Church parade. One shudders to think what would have been their punishment had they gone on parade without trousers! We have seen the War Secretary many times in the House of Commons when he could have done with a brush down. But that's another story.

JOHN BULL'S BIOSCOPE.

A series of Bioscope views depicting how JOHN BULL and *Mrs. Bull* are produced, is being shown in various towns and cities on the cinematograph of the "John Bull Entertainment." To-day (Thursday) and on Friday the car will be in Aldershot (High Street, near Canteen and Mess); Saturday, Farnborough (Fair Ground, Peabody Road); Monday, Odiham (The Bury); Tuesday, Basingstoke; and on Wednesday, Alton—and readers and their friends should not fail to see these well-known periodicals "in the making."

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXLII.

PLEA FOR A WORKHOUSE INMATE.

We publish below an appeal that has little resemblance to those usually made in these columns other than that the writer is in extremity. The facts we have verified. He is a man still in the prime of life, who has occupied many responsible positions, and is now, and has been for a year past, an inmate of a workhouse. Some three years ago he was knocked down by a porter at Victoria Station. Then followed an illness lasting many months. He had a wife and young children to support, and as the months passed his money became exhausted. Under the pressure of immediate want, he foolishly accepted £25 from the railway company in full settlement, although there is little doubt that if he had gone to Court he would have got many hundreds. Having exhausted all his resources, and his wife being only able by a small business in which she was engaged to earn enough to keep herself and children from actual starvation, the man had to go to the workhouse. If the effects of the illness had passed away completely, it would have been easy enough for him to have got another appointment, but, unhappily, up to the present time he can walk only with the aid of a stick. He hopes, however, to recover the use of his legs completely, and meanwhile he would be deeply grateful for any light work that will enable him to get away from his present horrible surroundings. We commend his case as one entirely worthy of the generous help of our readers. He writes:—

> Having read with sympathetic interest the letters appearing under the above heading, and the generous response which they have elicited, can I hope for a similar appeal in my own unfortunate case, as a means of relieving me from the workhouse—primarily for an offer of employment, consistent with my present disability of having to use one stick?
>
> I met with an accident, a fracture of the left hip, through the carelessness of a porter at Victoria Station three years ago, and acknowledged by the S.E. and C. Railway Company, but through a wrong certificate as to my injuries, I only received £25 as compensation, and I am only now, after this lapse of time, able to seek temporary employment.
>
> My experience since the "eighties" has been secretaryships of West End clubs, and during the Liberator failure my services were continued by the Senior Official Receiver, Mr. Samuel Wheeler, in expert capacity, on the completion and development of the various properties. I was General Manager of Whitehall Court for six years, and during that time I either managed or reported upon nearly four millions in value of properties. I enclose a testimonial from the Senior Official Receiver as to my working, integrity and ability, which speaks for itself. Since then, in the responsible positions I have held, down to the eve of my accident, I have filled them with every credit, corroboration enclosed. I am a Mason, having belonged, in 1895, to the St. Martin's Lodge, St. Martin's Town Hall. I am married, and my family are feeling most acutely my enforced absence.
>
> With a helping hand, enabling me to sustain myself for a few weeks, and ability to appear creditably dressed, I have no fear of readily reasserting myself, but driven to the workhouse, in a penniless condition, some twelve months ago, with subsequent experiences I can never efface, in despair, alone, and regretfully I write this letter, hoping that your readers who have so generously helped many others will also lend me a helping hand in my extremity.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CXXIX.—"White Rose," 2s. 6d.; R. H. M. T., 5s.; T. R., 1s.; "Durbanite," 20s.

CXXXVI.—"Anon," 1s.

CXXXIX.—"A. V. B.," 1s.; Scholars of Loughton School, 1s. 6d.; "Antuco," 5s.; "Leo," 2s.; A. G. W., 5s.; R. C., 1s.

CXL.—A. B., 10s.; J. J. J., 1s.

CXLI.—"Honest Freemason," 5s.; W. H., 1s. 4d.; "Fuigal Dymchurch Montefiore," 1s.; "Forrester Dappleton Moggridge," 6d.; "Faugh Dottlebury Musclethwaite," 1s.; "Flowerdew Dabchick Muttlebotham," 10s.; M., 20s.

TO MINERS (COAL OR METAL).

A generous reader has placed the sum of £60 in our hands for the benefit of a child, preferably an orphan, of any miner (coal or metal) whose case may commend itself to us. We shall be happy to hear from any reader who may know of a deserving case.

BILKING A MARRIAGE BROKER.

HOW A PARSON GOT A RICH WIFE ON THE CHEAP.

By Our Special Commissioner.

It is natural that a parson, like other men, should, at some time or other, taken unto himself a wife. It is because the parson in question has overstepped the bounds of decency—and, indeed, behaved as a cad—that I write the following.

Here are the facts of the case: Less than five years ago the reverend gentleman thought he would like a wife. His salary was over £300 a year. This, not being sufficient, he set about to find a woman with money. First he wrote to the manager of a matrimonial agency, and subsequently he had an interview. Several photographs of ladies who wished to get married, and who had money, were shown him. None of them was particularly good-looking. That, however, did not matter. They had the money. That was sufficient for the Vicar. He paid his booking fee. Then he signed an agreement that he would pay by four quarterly instalments, immediately after his marriage, 2½ per cent. on the gross amount which his wife might bring him.

Having paid his booking-fee, and signed his agreement, he was given the addresses of the ladies whose photos he had already inspected. He wrote to each of them, and some of them even visited him at the Vicarage. None of them took him on.

Society Parasites.

Now there are "ladies" and "gentlemen" moving in the best society who are a disgrace to civilisation. The following announcement from a matrimonial agent's booklet will illustrated what I mean:—

> Officers of the Navy and Army, and Society ladies can be introduced to each other, without the ladies knowing anything about the Agency. We have several ladies and gentlemen moving in the best society, who are prepared to introduce clients of ours to rich ladies.

And this is how it was done in the case of the parson. A certain Army officer knew of a girl moving in good society, and who had property to the value of £10,000. He also knew the manager of the matrimonial agency, and they had a perfect agreement as regards the buying and selling of human flesh and blood. The officer's terms for stalking the prey were half the total amount of commission that the agency bargained for. Then came the introduction. The parson was invited to lunch, given by the officer at a West-end hotel. When I state that it "was given by the officer" it does not follow that the officer paid for it. As a matter of fact, the parson paid. Half-a-dozen guests were present, including the girl in question. This lunch was a sort of preliminary canter for the parson. He had to feel his way. After lunch he invited some of the party down to the Vicarage. Of course, the girl with the money was one of them.

Weds the Girl and Repudiates the Agreement.

The parson seems to have made the running pretty strong during the time he had the party at the Vicarage. He married the girl less than six months after her first visit to his church and village. Then the trouble commenced. I have previously stated that the income of the parson was just over £300 a year. His wife had property worth £10,000. He had agreed, it will be remembered, to pay the Matrimonial Agency 2½ per cent. on this amount. This meant £250, half of which was to go to the "gallant" officer. Repeated application for this amount met with no response. A threat of an action at law was met with the repudiation of the debt. Now, had the Matrimonial Agency been the sole creditor, it would have been inclined to close its books and say no more about the matter. But it was being pushed by the officer for his £125. In the circumstances, it took the course of issuing a writ. The parson pleaded that it was merely an action to bring his name before the public and ruin him.

The Judge seems to have taken this view also, for he refused to allow the action to proceed. Personally, I have other views on the matter. In my opinion this case is on all fours with that of a person who pleads the Gaming Act.

Now just a word about the girl. My information is that she is entirely in the dark as to the manner in which she has been bought and sold. Perhaps she may read these lines—and be enlightened.

STATIONMASTERS.

THE LOT OF MIDLAND OFFICIALS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF ANOTHER LINE.

Referring to our recent reference to the inability of Midland Railway stationmasters to get away at any time of the day or week, a correspondent writes:—

> The Midland Railway stationmaster is fairly well off in comparison with those on some other railways. On one, for instance, whose motto is "Forward," the stationmaster is about the only servant of the company that does not sign off duty. Each member of his staff has his booked time to be on duty, and his time to leave duty, when he may go where he likes; there is no further claim upon him until his time to commence duty again comes round. Not so the stationmaster. He must not leave his post without permission from the superintendent. Not only that, but it is now ordered that should goods guards have exceeded eleven hours duty, they must make application for relief to the nearest stationmaster *who must be called up* if not on duty, and if no relief is available for the guard, the stationmaster must himself work the train forward to the nearest depot, where relief can be obtained—*i.e.*, the stationmaster may, after his twelve or fifteen hours of active duty (usually fifteen), have gone to bed, yet, notwithstanding his long day's work, must get up to take the place of a guard who has exceeded eleven hours' duty. No provision is made for him to take rest. He is held responsible for his staff signing on duty just the same, until all have been booked off duty again, and the stationmaster is left at his post ready for another call, if needed, or sleep if he can get it, and this for seven days per week and the year round. Surely he is entitled to some little consideration?

SURVEY FEES AGAIN!

SOME REMARKABLE DAYLIGHT ROBBERIES.

Mr. W. G. Smith keeps a butcher's shop at 161, Newington Butts. In November last we made arrangements with him for displaying an advertisement banner. One night this banner was blown down, bringing with it a couple of bricks from the roof. Mr. Smith had the necessary repairs made, and we settled the bill of 45s. Some few days after, the District Surveyor sent to the butcher a little account for "inspecting the repairs"—£2 11s. 3d. Not wishing to waste time on the matter, we paid this also, though we *should* have liked to have had details of the odd 3d. Anyhow, we thought we had settled the job. But not so. The London County Council now send in an account for £1 11s. 6d. for *another* surveyor's fee, with an order to pay forthwith. We have advised Mr. Smith not to remit. When the County Council take him into Court, we shall be there. It almost recalls the Ronald case!

ODE TO THE BUSINESS GOVERNMENT.

By a Non-Party Man.

(*We publish the following, with many Editorial blushes.*)

I am not a strong politician,
I don't know which Party I'm with,
My sympathies may be patrician,
But my brain lines me up by J. Smith;
But I *do* know I'm sick of the cackling
And cant of these partisan Bosses,
As I read their "debates," my soul iterates;
"*Cut the cackle, an' come to the* 'osses!"

I am sick when I read ev'ry morning
That B—— has just found out that A——
Is a fellow too low for our scorning.
We knew it—and so is A. J.,
I am sick of these hoary old insults
That each at the other man tosses,
It's "You lie!" and "You lie!" till I up and I cry,
"Cut the cackle an' come to the 'osses!"

From blustering mouth and from slack knee,
From cold courage and vapourings hot,
Deliver us, Man of South Hackney,
The only real Man of the lot!
Let's hoof 'em out: Party is bankrupt!
Let's start afresh, cutting our losses—
Since it's *Hackney* that's sent you to Parliament,
You're the fellow to 'andle me *'osses!*

THE CREDIT SUPPLY WAREHOUSE.

A NEW AND ORIGINAL TRICK.

We thought that most of the tricks of advertising tradesmen had been exhausted by now, but we have to congratulate the Credit Supply Warehouse, Exchange Buildings, Norwich, on a simplicity of ingenuity worthy of the heathen Chinee. They offer to supply goods "on easy monthly payments" and hold out as a bait that they "employ no collectors to call at your door for money," but do all their business through the post, "that is, after you have received the goods ordered, you simply send a postal order each month whichever amount (see terms sheet) suits your pocket best. Strict privacy is assured, and distance is no object."

The "terms sheet" says:—"*After* you have received the goods you send us *monthly through the post* one of the following amounts, *whichever suits your pocket best.*" Then follows a long table of figures ranging from 10s. to 300s. We give the first and last few lines as an illustration:—

About									Deposits.			
10/-	worth of goods sent on receipt of								1/-	2/-	and	2/6
15/-	"	"	"	"	"	"			1/6	2/-	"	3/-
20/-	"	"	"	"	"	"			2/-	3/6	"	4/-
25/-	"	"	"	"	"	"			2/6	4/6	"	5/6
30/-	"	"	"	"	"	"		2/6	3/6	4/-	"	5/-
35/-	"	"	"	"	"	"		2/6	3/6	5/6	"	6/
40/-	"	"	"	"	"	"		3/6	4/6	5/6	"	7/-
45/-	"	"	"	"	"	"		4/-	5/6	6/6	"	7/6
50/-	"	"	"	"	"	"		4/-	5/6	7/6	"	8/6
280/-	"	"	"	"	"	"	16/6	19/6	23/-	26/-	27/-	" 29/-
285/-	"	"	"	"	"	"	17/6	19/6	24/-	26/-	27/-	" 29/6
290/-	"	"	"	"	"	"	17/6	20/-	25/-	26/-	27/-	" 30/-
295/-	"	"	"	"	"	"	17/6	22/6	25/-	26/-	27/-	" 31/-
300/-	"	"	"	"	"	"	18/6	23/-	25/6	26/-	27/-	" 31/-

What could be clearer or more attractive than this? On the face of it, all you have to do is to choose the goods you want and decide for yourself which alternative monthly payment you prefer. Most people would probably choose the smallest and hasten to dispatch a postal order. When they have done so, the Credit Supply Warehouse coolly sends a printed letter, informing them that the goods will only be forwarded on receipt of the whole row of deposits following the amount of goods ordered, totalling about half the price. Thus, if you choose 300s. worth of goods, it is not enough to send a deposit of 18s. 6d. and promise to send that sum every month in future. No, besides your 18s. 6d. you must also send 23s. and 25s. 6d. and 26s. and 27s. and 31s. before you can hope to receive anything.

Perhaps by the strict letter this is defensible. The goods are only promised on receipt of "deposits" in the plural. But the wording of the circular and the heading of the terms sheet would certainly lead any intelligent person to imagine that only one deposit was required as a preliminary. That is where the trick comes in. Moreover, in the case of one of our readers who sent 2s. 6d. as a deposit for 56s. 6d. of goods, he was informed that he must send 1s. 6d. more in order to make up the initial deposit of 4s. That is certainly evidence of intent to deceive, and we can understand the disgust of victims who are made to forfeit their deposit or else pull out a lot more money.

Surely it is high time that all the countless victims of such artifices should combine to form an association to protect themselves. If a hundred or a thousand people all took County Court proceedings to recover their deposits from the Credit Supply Warehouse, those tricksters would soon have to put up their shutters.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR.

MORE GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

Could you give me a little information on New Zealand? First, are there any bridge-girder or constructional steel-yards there? If so, could you give some of the names and addresses, also about the rate of wages paid for skilled hands.

What amount of money did Ireland contribute to Peter's Pence last year?

Where was Lord ——— ——— (who cannot write a business letter) at school and college, if any?

4 or 5 weeks ago it Came out in Person's paper that there was sheep in Asia Minor with Tailes weight 70 to 80 lbs. each only the Tailes is this correct?

Why is a bet in Briton Sinfull and the post to Holland makes it pure?

Has Black List got a separation order from Black Maria?

TRUCULENT KILL-JOYS.

THE CRIME OF A GAME OF BALL.

Glory, laud and honour to the Southwick (Sussex) Urban District Council. This patriotic and philanthropic body has been vindicating the rights of the locality with an energy and vigour which might well be imitated at Westminster. It can claim to have established the prerogatives of collectivism and restrained once for all the aggressive impertinence of individuals who dare to imagine that, because common lands were once the pleasure grounds of their ancestors, it is to be tolerated that they should perpetuate a venerable abuse.

In defiance of the noble traditions of kill-joys, an undisciplined termagant, a child of nine, actually had the audacity to go off and play football on Southwick Green. No wonder that the Council's Surveyor took immediate action; that the young reprobate had his football confiscated, was brought up before the Shoreham Bench of Magistrates and ordered to pay 7s. 6d. costs. We congratulate this officer upon his zeal on behalf of our national duty to pull long faces and make our children's lives miserable, but we venture to point out a little lapse on the part of the Council, detracting from its renown by suggesting an insufficient development of the logical faculty.

Of course it is intolerable that a child of nine should be permitted to play at ball on the preserves of an important public body, but why does the Council seek to attract residents by pointing to the Green as an ideal playing ground for children? Surely everybody knows that greens ought to be strictly reserved for perambulating Bible-readers and the sweet musicians of the Salvation Army.

WOE UNTO YOU, YE LAWYERS!

THE LAMENT OF A WITNESS.

A correspondent, who has evidently been in the wars, writes: "It is the tendency of the day amongst the sharks and bloodsuckers of the law, aided and abetted by a despotic Government of lawyers, to abuse, blackguard, and brutally bully honest, respectable, and law-abiding citizens who, fortunately or unfortunately, are called into a court of law as witnesses. This growing fashion of brutality, this growing curse, wants to be promptly and vigorously put down, and witnesses thoroughly protected against the Bullies of the Law."

As Mr. F. E. Smith replied to a squeamish witness the other day, it is not always possible to be complimentary in cross-examining, but we do agree that the methods of Sergeant Buzfuz are on the increase, and ought to be discouraged. They are not even good policy, for though one or two timid persons may be frightened into unguarded admissions, the prejudices of the jury are certain to be more than correspondingly aroused. In our own experience we have always found that the soft question turneth away suspicion, and that the wickedest witnesses may be cozened by kindness. It will be a great pity if the public comes to regard the witness-box as an instrument of torture, for people will be deterred from volunteering to tell the truth.

We do not, however, agree with our correspondent that "a man, to be a successful barrister to-day, must be a blackguard and a bully, professionally speaking," even though it is a fact that his trade is the only one specifically denounced in Holy Writ. But we are in some sympathy with the idea of adopting the Scandinavian practice of selecting judges outside the legal profession. Party Politicians, however, do not supply an ideal alternative.

DR. MACAURA'S DEMONSTRATION.

At the Royal Albert Hall last week, Dr. Macaura, despite interruption by medical students at one part of the proceedings—which, however, was speedily quelled—held a successful demonstration of his "vibration" treatment. Many persons testified to either an improvement in their condition or a cure, and some who had attended the demonstration held a year ago gave their experiences—among them a Mr. Jelly (who had upon the prior occasion to be carried on the stage, and after treatment before the audience allowed his sticks to be broken) who stated that he had suffered no relapse. Several of the audience, suffering from gout, rheumatism, etc., were also publicly treated and testified to the benefit they derived therefrom.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON.

By Walter Moore.

I called on Sir Ernest Shackleton the other day. Recollections of a previous interview flooded my mind as I stood once more face to face with the explorer.

"You are after the shekels again, I see?" I observed.

Sir Ernest treated me to a heavy scowl.

"What do you mean?" he growled.

"I notice you are only asking for £12,000 this time."

"It is not for myself," protested Sir Ernest, warmly. "It is for my friend, Dr. Douglas Mawson."

"And who on earth is Dr. Douglas Mawson?" I demanded. "And why does not he beg for himself?"

"Dr. Mawson is an old comrade of mine," replied Sir Ernest. "He accompanied me on my Antarctic expedition. But as he is only a modest and retiring professor of geology at Adelaide University, he could not summon up enough cheek to ask the British public for a cool twelve thou. So I did it for him. You see, I am an old hand at the game."

"Yes, I know," I returned. "But what is it for this time?"

"Are you contributing to the fund?" asked Sir Ernest, with a suspicion of a sneer.

"Not I," I retorted.

"Then what business is it of yours?" snarled the exploiter—I should say explorer.

"That is a foolish way to talk," I rejoined. "You make a public appeal in the public press, and you must consequently be prepared to answer any questions the public may put to you. Who is going to be benefited by this expedition?"

"The Australian farmer," replied Sir Ernest. "That is, if anybody will be benefited apart from the expeditionary party and the contractors who will supply the stores. The idea is to discover why Australian weather is what it is."

"I see," I murmured. "Then why not raise the money in Australia? Do you think Australians would contribute to the funds of an expedition to discover why English weather is what it is?"

"You don't seem to have got the hang of the idea," observed Sir Ernest. "You see, in the words of my moving appeal, we are anxious to increase our knowledge of the Antarctic region, and to chart the 2,500 miles of unknown coast on the north side of Antarctica."

"Why?" I asked. "Is that region habitable?"

"Of course not," returned Sir Ernest, impatiently.

"Would it be possible to work any valuable mineral deposits that might be found there?"

"No."

"Do merchant vessels approach that coast near enough to make it important that it should be charted?"

"Never."

"So there is really no practical reason for this expedition?" I said.

"Oh yes there is," retorted Sir Ernest. "As I already have said, my old comrade, Dr. Mawson, hopes to find out why Australian weather is what it is."

"And when he has found that out will he be able to improve it?" I inquired.

"Great Scot!" shouted Sir Ernest. "Have you never heard of such a thing as scientific curiosity?"

"Quite," I replied. "I have also heard of the scientific collection of large sums of money for useless enterprises. See here, young man, you seem to have got the South Pole on the brain. Give it a rest for a bit. *You* have not done so badly out of it. All sorts of honours—chiefly foreign, I notice—have been heaped upon your modest head because you were lucky enough to reach to within a hundred miles of the South Pole. Now devote your energies to something useful. If the Australians are anxious to know why their weather is what it is, let them pay for the knowledge themselves. But for my own part, I fancy the majority of our cousins 'down under' would rather know the winner of the Melbourne Cup, than all the meteorological information your old comrade Dr. Mawson may—or may not—be able to supply them with."

"Clear out!" shouted Sir Ernest, "or I'll put the editor of the *Puddleton Gazette* on your track!"

The awful threat sufficed.

"THE PAGEANT OF LONDON."

By R. M.

Gloom and gladness, gaiety, sadness;
Side by side in the London street;
Velvet and rags together marching,
Virtue and vice, unknowing, meet.
Misery, jollity, sternness, frivolity,
Motors, waggons, barrows, and prams;
Judges and criminals pacing in harmony,
Here are realities, here are shams.
Medley and motley confusing the eye,
The Pageant of London goes streaming by.

Men on the kerbstone make a market,
Selling their links and studs and laces;
Grim is the fight for bare existence,
Read the tale in their thin white faces.
Pushing his load comes the costermonger,
Cheery, chirpy, laughing at fate,
Off'ring his wares at unheard-of prices,
Warranted sound and warranted weight.
Artful and innocent, softy and sly,
The Pageant of London goes bustling by.

Soldier, sailor, tinker, and tailor,
Aye, let's go on to "beggarman, thief";
Dupe, decoy, star actor and super,
Rank and file, and commander-in-chief.
Wife, mother, maiden, girls beauty-laden,
Modesty almost inclined to flirt,
Trustfulness, treachery, purity, lechery,
Greediness groping for gold in the dirt.
Here is the spider and here is the fly,
The Pageant of London goes rattling by.

Hurrying workers, mouching shirkers.
Wastrels tripping the downward track,
Starving men with their bellies empty
Carrying sandwich boards on their back.
John o' Dreams dreaming—somebody screaming!
Only an accident—scores every day;
Yes, it is pitiful, but, in a City full,
Part of the price that we ninepirs must pay.
The false and the fair, the truth and the lie,
The Pageant of London goes gibbering by.

Bookies and runners, guardsmen and gunners,
Business men and men killing time,
Boys crying papers, boys cutting capers.
Spotless apparel and clothes all grime.
Ladies who're shopping, ladies who're dropping
Just half an eyelid to summon a beau,
Wistful and eager girls, flighty Bodega girls,
Stranger, acquaintance, a friend, and a foe.
What living picture with this film can vie?
The Pageant of London goes rioting by.

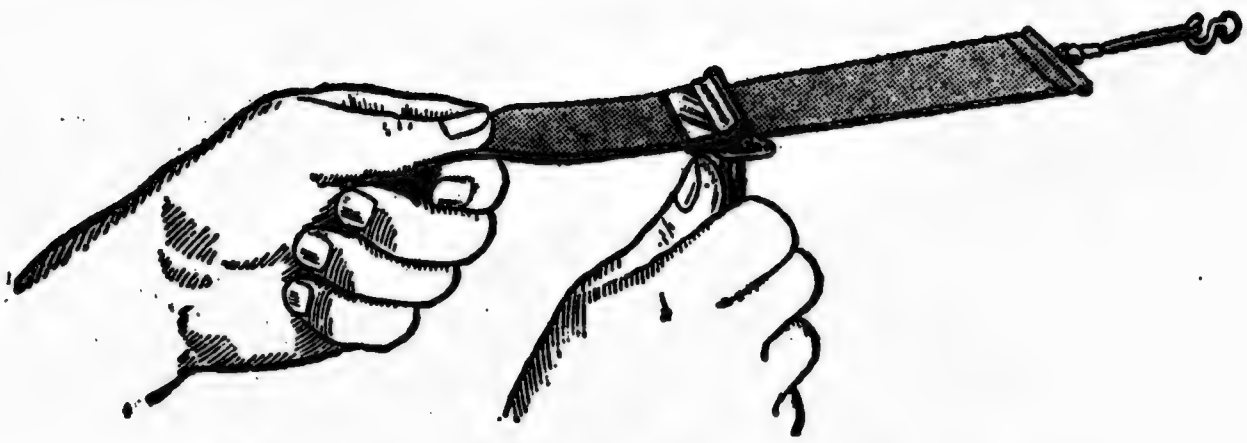
Street-corner fighting, spectators delighting,
Always a crowd when a battle is fought;
Fisticuffs rapping, red claret tapping,
Hopes that no "copper" will end all the sport.
In this community here's opportunity
For a light-fingered lad's misapplied skill!
Here is a pocket picked, gold watch and albert "nicked,"
"Stop thief!" 's the cry taken up with a will.
Hunter and hunted, the pack in full cry,
The Pageant of London goes galloping by.

* * * * *

Where moonbeams quiver, down by the river,
Out of the clouds in the dead of night,
There on the ridge of the desolate bridge
Poises a figure, shadowy, slight.
Gone like a dream—down, down to the stream
Struggling awhile in the black, bubbling waters,
Gasping for breath till she sinks down to death—
Only the toll London claims from her daughters!
Shame's last mad scream to the pitiless sky—
The Pageant of London, remorseless, goes by.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.



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NO OBLIGATION TO BUY.

POETRY FOR THE CORONATION.

EARLY AND EXCLUSIVE EXTRACTS.

By Richard Morton.

This is the close time for poets. They are all busy hatching out rhymes, and you must not shoot even the worst of them, as by so doing you would incur a heavy penalty under the Tame Poets' Protection Act. It is probable that, in a really desperate case, one might feel inclined to risk the fine, but humanity bids us leave the poor things alone just now.

Coronation Odes and Coronation Tributes are what the poets are hatching. They can't help it; it's their nature. The divine inspiration possesses them, and their condition is truly pitiful until they get rid of it.

Later on, you will read in the other journals the sum total of this Coronation brain-storm. The poets will throw it at you in full presently, but there is no need for you to wait. We offer a few extracts to go on with.

The first poet on our list is, quite properly, Mr. Alfred Austin, Court Poet and Poet Laureate. He is brimming with loyalty and botany, and generally contrives to blend them nicely together. Here is a fragment of his coming Coronation poem, as it has reached us:—

Ode for the Coronation.

By Alfred Austin.

King and Emperor, Queen and Empress,
Hail!
With heart and voice
We all rejoice
On hill and Dale!
O mighty as England's oak,
That bends but to lightning's stroke;
Yet gentle as primrose pale,
Again we cry
To the heavens on high,
Hail!

As we have said, this is only a fragment, and it is to be hoped that the poet will not persist in his petition for hail, which would be out of place on Coronation Day.

The next sample that has come to us is classed as the work of that great Poet of Empire, Mr. Rudyard Kipling, and we all know how finely he can fling his words about when he feels like it. As is only proper, he is less lurid than usual on the present occasion, but the old martial strain is there:—

The King's Crown.

By Rudyard Kipling.

Soldier, you have fought for "Bobs,"
And, like a man, you're willing
To fight for but a single bob
When once you've took the shilling.
They pay you fourteen pence a day,
But never be cast down,
For a King we own on a golden throne.
And ain't he worth a crown?
Soldier, soldier, up to your eyes in debt,
Tramping, marching, through the heavy wet.
Three long cheers and an extra one,
Strain your lungs, you son of a gun—
Lest we forget! Lest we forget!

From this outburst of military homage, rough but honest, stirring if not lyrically perfect, we pass to the sedate stanzas of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. He really isn't a poet, but he thinks he is, and, as he specialises in manhood and strength and boxing and boy scouts and sport and loyalty, he considers he ought to join in:—

George for Britain!

By Arthur Conan Doyle.

Who shall bend the bow of Empire?
Strong must be his mighty hand;
Who shall be Britannia's bulwark?
Valiant he must lead the band.

Who shall fright the foreign vulture,
Screaming o'er our smiling shore?
Take a course of physical culture,
And be strong unto the core.

There will be a lot more verses, equally as good as the foregoing, when the poem is completed.

But perhaps the specimens quoted are enough.

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

By W. M.

Thys Massyve Monumente
Was erected
To keep down ye Remaynes of
GEORGE BERNARD SHAW,
Who,
Towards ye end of ye Nineteenth
And ye beginnynge of ye Twentieth Centuries,
Succeeded in makynge hymselfe conspickuous
In ye eyes of ye Publick.
Born in Dublin, Anno Domini 1856,
Hee,
Atte an earlie age,
Scandalyzed hys relacions by
Cultivatynge a red beard,
Ye whyche hee tooke for a sygne
That Nature intended hym to become
A Socialist.
Hee therefore descended upon London,
Strangelie attyred
In baggie tweedes and sandals,
And joyned ye Fabian Societie.
Afflycted wyth an irritable stomache,
Hee foreswore meate, became a vegetarian,
And lyved mainlie upon
Beans.
However,
He made a virtue of necessitie
And succeeded in persuadynge a section of ye publick
That hee abstayned from flesche on principle.
Ye same distressynge stomachick weakness
Depryved hym of ye comfort of tobacco and
Beer;
Consequentlie, notte lykynge to see others enjoy
Pleasures whyche gave hym payne,
Hee became an ardent temperance advocate
And a bitter anti-smoaker.
Havynge written a few novels and sundrie playes
Wyth a certain measure of success,
Hee was suddenlie smitten wyth that fell disease
Swelled Head,
Ye whyche maladie became chronick
And remayned wyth hym
To ye end.
However, hee bore hys grievous afflicktion with fortitude,
Ye whyche is more than ye publick did,
For hys complaynt sometymes manifested itselfe in ye form
Of Delusions: to wit,
Hee fancied ye publick sette a value on hys opinions,
Soe hee sayd manie irrational thynges about
Shakespeare, Politicks, Musick, Art, Socialism, Theatre,
Doctors, Divorce, and Marriage;
Butte,
In ye wildernesse of hys intellectual weedes,
And in ye void of hys ineffectual lyfe,
Hys one remarkable achievement
Stands out wyth strange conspickuousness,
To wit,
Hys discoverie of a manne of soe temerarious a spirit
As toe write hys Lyfe
While hee was yet livynge.

Pause notte wythyn thys tomb's oppressive shade
To weepe for hym who underneathe is layed;
Or, if thy tears unbidden still will swelle,
Weepe because Chesterton's notte here as welle:
For Shaw noe grief is meete, noe bended knee,
For hee is better off—*and soe are wee.*

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An article of far-reaching importance to all who are engaged in business. Useful alike to the Clerk, the Salesman, the Traveller, the Manager, or the Proprietor of any Business, large or small.

To the thoughtless, the easy-going, or the very young man this question may at first glance seem an insult.

Such a one would answer, in an off-handed sort of way:

"Why I am *in* Business—I am a Business man. I know all about Business—or I ought to do so."

Aye, there's the rub! He *ought to do*. But does he? Let me put the same question to you.

How much do *you* know about Business? Unless you are a rare and brilliant exception—you will probably own, after a mortifying self-examination, that it is precious little indeed of sound Business knowledge that you really know—confidently and surely enough to bank on.

Yet without this Business knowledge your chances of doing well for yourself in the business world are very poor ones indeed. With it, there is

No Position You Cannot Aspire To.

It is only necessary to look around, to read the daily papers, to listen to the gossip of the day, to realise that in no department of life into which intelligent men put sound knowledge and ability and "sticking in" qualities are the rewards so sure, so soon realised, and so lasting as in the great and increasingly-important world of Business.

Now what do *you* know about Business?

For instance, do you understand Book-keeping thoroughly? Could you draw up a balance-sheet? Do you understand exactly how the financial position of a tradesman or a firm is determined from his books? Do you understand a profit and loss account? Do you know when recovery of book debts is barred?

Do you know the law as it specially affects your own particular trade, business or calling? Do you understand the manufacturing of the goods you are concerned with or that the firm that employs you is concerned with? Do you know anything at all about manufacturing? Do you know how to figure depreciations? How to check leakage? Do you understand time-keeping systems?

You do not? Not thoroughly and authoritatively? Yet

These Things are Parts of Business Knowledge.

Do you know much about the Income Tax? Do you know Company Law? Do you know the cost of the formation of a Company? The methods of amalgamation? Do you understand the conversion of shares into stock? Do you understand Compulsory Winding-up? Do you know all about County Court Business, Judgments, etc.?

Do you understand clearly what a Bankruptcy definition is? Or what the goodwill of a business really means? Do you know about cheques and banking and bills of all sorts? Do you understand the difference between Insurance and Assurance?

Do you know anything at all about International Trade conditions and regulations?

Do you know how to start a Business? How to secure its credit, and to buy its equipment? How to organise its departments, build up its reputation, collect its debts, rake in its profits?

Do you know anything about big selling schemes? How to create a demand for any special article? How to meet competition? Do you understand the mail order business? Or how to hire and to coach and to deal with salesmen?

Do you know anything about advertising? Would you know how to engineer separately a national advertising appeal and a local appeal?

Yet these matters are Business Knowledge. And if you want to make money in business you must either know them or know where you can get authoritative and complete and up-to-date information concerning them and concerning the thousand and one points of doubt or difficulty that beset the business man in the course of his business day.

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DANCING.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

What an extraordinary creature the human animal is when we come to consider its antics in pursuit of that will-o'-the-wisp called amusement! I have already dealt with the offensive mania which vents itself in expressing hideous noises either through the mouth or by striking mechanical instruments. This is known as Mu-sick (with the accent on the sick), and affords incessant vexation to quiet, sober, sensible people like myself. But I am not sure that the grotesque exercise ycleped dancing does not afford worse evidence of lunacy. It is certainly more violent and invites strait-waistcoats or padded cells.

Craving for Cuddles.

Of course, I know one reason why people indulge in it, and that is not to their credit. The form which the frenzy usually takes in this country derives its popularity from the promiscuous contact of persons belonging to different sexes. I submit that the most popular dancing-dens would soon be deserted if the authorities decreed that the exercise should be restricted to solitary gyration. The average young man and young woman are persuaded to make fools of themselves by reason of opportunities for embraces, gentle pressure, hugs, and other carnal delights which appeal to their lower instincts, yet are publicly permitted by the parents and guardians who ought to keep a more vigilant watch over the morals of their young. It seems to me that there is something almost polygamous about a polka, an atmosphere of Mormonism even in a minuet.

Plea for Privacy.

Please do not think that I am pandering to the kill-joys. By all means let the sexes give reasonable vent to their amorous propensities. I am always an advocate of cuddling and kissing and knee-nudging and hand-squeezing, and all the harmless appetizers of hopeless passions or mild intrigues. But I do think that the alcove is a more decent, seemly, propitious and satisfactory place for amenities of this kind. Public exhibitions of intimacy jar upon my sense of fitness. Apart from that, corybantic contacts are too promiscuous to inspire any but the most fleeting emotions. I quite admit that a man or a woman can be in love simultaneously with several members of the opposite sex, but to dance with a dozen or a score during one evening savours of Henry VIII., Salt Lake City, the haremlik.

Dancing a Dangerous Drug.

It is quite an open question whether dancing is conducive to marriage. In my innocence, I should have thought that hot, perspiring, bedraggled people were unlikely to look their best and inspire that tender religious devotion which nice minds regard as the requisite preliminary to matrimonial entanglement. On the other hand, the blare of a band, the intoxication of scent and movement, the excitement of whirls at close quarters, the whole artificial atmosphere of mock orgy induce recklessness, irresponsibility and expansion, all very fertile in reckless abandonment. The whole surroundings tend to deprive young people of their sober senses, something very like temporary insanity casts all prudence to the winds, and there is every chance of regrets as well as headaches accompanying the cold light of day. The whole hubbub is in favour of indiscretions.

Boredom of the Ball-room.

So also, oddly enough, is the very boredom of the function. When we go to a ball we expect too much. We look for an incessant succession of voluptuous sensations, and, whenever there is an instant's pause—if our expectations of partners are not gratified to the utmost, if we feel neglected or snubbed or disappointed during the tiniest interval—we seize the first opportunity to make up for lost time even in the arms of the unloved; we let ourselves go; we succumb to thoughts which would make us blush in saner moments. We also become shockingly selfish. We do not seem to realise that the greater part of the frequenters of a ball-room have a very poor time indeed. The wallflowers and the chaperons are condemned to discard all their cherished habits, to be kept out of their comfortable couches in order to hang about and talk platitudes, or eat and drink unwholesome things. They start without the least anticipation of pleasure; if they want to go home before the revellers have had their fill, they are looked upon as wet blankets, curmudgeons, intolerable nuisances. No one ever makes the least allowance for their self-sacrifice. And it is quite a usual thing for a girl to boast that she is giving her old mother or maiden aunt a splendid time by taking her out to so many parties, though they are really only melancholy vigils, a refinement of torture.

Antics of Aliens.

I have seen much dancing in foreign lands. It varies, of course, everywhere, except in the matter of silly futility. In Austria you find the sort of tailor-made female waltzing so soberly, so correctly, so mechanically that you may mistake her for a marionette. In Slav countries you find a segregation of the sexes, long strings of men and women taking hands and hopping about like bears on hot bricks. Every now and then they wag their heads and emit a sort of bark which possesses no semblance of gaiety. Among the Celts you may observe solitary jigs or reels whose vivacity is unaccompanied by grace or distinction. And as for the barbarous cake-walks of Yahoo Yankees, faugh!—to use transpontine jargon, they make me tired.

Vicarious Voluptuousness.

I maintain that dancing should be restricted to professional performers. That is the ancient and Oriental idea. When a Pasha or a Patriarch gave a dance, he and his friends did not sacrifice their dignity to indulge in the capers of children or buffoons. No, they sat cross-legged on soft cushions, or reclined on divans, sipping sherbet or puffing long pipes. They hired women of the least considered class to entertain them. It stands to reason that the ordinary person who sits at a desk all day, hunts, plays cricket or golf, pores over embroidery, frequents sales or haggles with the butcher, cannot compete with the trained acrobat whose life is given up to the study of a difficult art. Grace may be displayed by the contortionist, but dignity demands repose. Herod must remain on his throne while Salome seeks to please with her pirouettes.

Supremacy of Sensuality.

Remember that she only pleased by appealing to the passions. That was ever the way with all dancing until these pudding-days when prudes prance about in boiled shirts and dog-collars. The essence of classical and historical dancing was to symbolise vice, to inspire desire, to corrupt good manners. Even in the prim early-Victorian age, a dissolute buck would make a bee-line for Vauxhall or Cremorne, just as your lewd tourist hastens to the can-cans of Montmartre. So also in moral London to-day angels' voices, and histrionic genius are hopelessly impotent to compete with the scraggy minx who can twist herself about voluptuously. She need not follow the canons of art; agility, rhythm, verve, majestic movements are not essential; the toe of Terpsichore will not earn a fraction of the salary commanded by shamelessness and suggestiveness. If you want to find a really repulsive object-lesson, go and watch an old man, or an old woman, for that matter, gloating over a disgusting dancer.

Hypnotic Hops.

Oddly enough, the sight of evil exercises seems to be even more demoralising than actual participation. Imprudent affections may be revealed by a waltz, but the observer of snake or stomach-wriggles incontinently desires to paint the town scarlet. In each case, of course, the effect is hypnotic. Your whirling dervish, your Aissawa, your mumbo-jumbo man realises that, and dances himself into an ecstasy before he begins his ritual. His object is to create an atmosphere, much as Cromwell's Ironsides snuffled psalms before charging hosts or much as Spiritualists sing, "Lead, kindly Light" before invoking apparitions.

Soothing Satisfactions.

All dances are not unwholesome. I confess to a sneaking kindness for a dainty minuet; for old British measures like the Fibby, which still survives at Helston in the prime part of Britain; for the inspiring ritual of the Seis choir-boys, who dance before the high altar in Seville cathedral. I am also glad when people dance attendance upon me, for I grow old and very weary of this troublesome world.

Let "Hyomei" Cure Your Catarrh.

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How you may obtain immediate relief and ultimate cure for Catarrh, Cold in the Head, Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Influenza, Catarrhal Deafness, Consumption, etc., etc.

Mr. R. T. Booth, who issues the following announcement, is the world-famous temperance orator, who some years ago, in co-operation with such friends and co-workers as the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, Rev. F. B. Meyer, and the late Rev. Newman Hall, Archdeacon Wilberforce, Lord Mount Temple, and others, founded the Blue Ribbon Army, which ultimately led a million to temperance. This glorious work was cut short by acute catarrh and threatened consumption, which sent him, by the order of the late Sir Andrew Clark, health-seeking to Australia. There he made his great discovery of Hyomei (pronounced Hi-o-me), which not only cured him, but has since cured multitudes of other sufferers. Hyomei is an inhalant which, being a powerful germ killer, cures by just breathing it.

Mr. R. T. Booth's words to sufferers are: "I want you to try the remedy that cured me. Twenty-five years ago, as many of you know, I was stricken with Catarrh in so malignant a form that my life was despaired of. Sir Andrew Clark, the late Mr. W. E. Gladstone's physician, advised me to make a journey to Australia, where it was hoped that the warmer climate would bring me relief. In that country I found a cure. That was twenty-five years ago, and to-day I have no signs of breathing troubles despite my age.

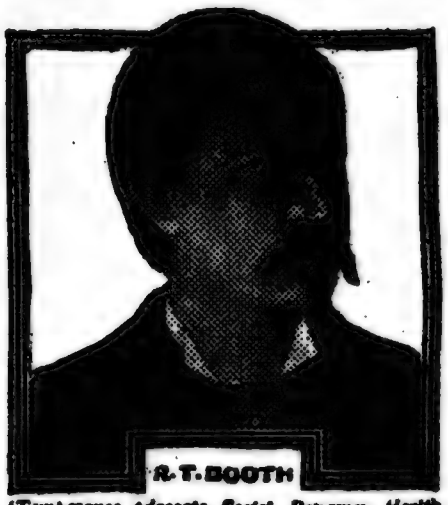
The remedy I discovered I named Hyomei (pronounced Hi-o-me), and I want every sufferer from breathing troubles to give it a trial. That they may do so, I have put the price within the reach of all. I implicitly believe in my remedy, and that is why I am so insistent in asking you to try it. I would not attach my name to anything unless I firmly believed that it would accomplish all that I claim for it. So great is my faith in Hyomei, moreover, that I guarantee to return your money if it does not benefit you. (See Coupon below.)

If your nose is stopped up.
If you have headaches.
If your voice is dull or harsh.
If your eyes often water.
If you sleep with your mouth open.
If crusts form in the nose.
If you catch cold easily.
If your hearing is affected.
If you have head noises.
If your throat is dry.
If you are tired on rising.
If you have a short, hacking cough.
If you have much discharge from the nose.
If your sense of smell is affected.
If mucus drops into your throat.

If, in fact, you have one or more of the above symptoms, then there is something wrong with your breathing organs and it is now that you should get your cure, before the trouble gets worse.

CATARRH LEADS TO CONSUMPTION.

Catarrh not only impoverishes the system, lowers the vitality, poisons the stomach, and weakens the mind, but it renders the sufferer irritable, despondent, careless, dull and thoughtless, and, in nine cases out of ten, if neglected, it leads to consumption, that dread disease which takes off thousands every year.



(Temperance Advocate, Social Reformer, Health Expert, Founder of the Blue Ribbon Army and Discoverer of Hyomei.)

Remember, no cough mixture, no lozenge, no drops, indeed, no medicine taken into the stomach ever did or ever will cure or even relieve nasal or throat catarrh, consumption, influenza, bronchitis, or lung trouble. These troubles threatened my life, and drove me to Australia seeking my cure. I found it there, and called it Hyomei (pronounced Hi-o-me). It cured me twenty-five years ago, *to stay cured ever since*, and it can cure you. I guarantee this, or return your money. (See Coupon below).

I have so devised the Hyomei Treatment that it gives you in your own homes dried, clean air, filtered and impregnated with cleansing and healing balms, exactly as you would get it and breathe it if you were living as I did in Australia.

Whether your trouble is in the Head (nose), with all the horrors of foul and dropping mucus; in the Throat, with constant hacking, soreness, phlegm, and coughing; or in the Lungs, with congestion and constant threat of Consumption, there is not in the world a treatment that should be mentioned in the same breath as the Hyomei Treatment for the relief and cure of the above troubles." R. T. BOOTH.

The Hyomei Outfit for giving Mr. Booth's treatment contains an inhaler with supply of antiseptic gauze, a bottle of the inhalant "Hyomei" and directions how to use it for Nasal and Throat Catarrh, Head Cold, as well as for such other troubles as Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Bronchitis, Asthma, Wheezing, Difficult Breathing, Tonsilitis, Whooping Cough, Croup, Catarrhal Deafness, Laryngitis, Consumption, Hay Fever, Throat Troubles, including, in fact, all respiratory troubles, and the price of the complete Hyomei Outfit, to place it within the reach of all, is 2s. 6d. complete.

A copy of the Booklet giving the account of Mr. Booth's discovery will be sent free to all who send for it, but all sufferers are advised to lose no time, but post at once coupon below, with P.O. or stamps for a complete Hyomei Outfit, seeing that delay in starting to cure such troubles is dangerous.

To Mr. R. T. Booth, 399, Roycroft House, 96, Southwark Street, London, S.E.

I enclose herewith 2s. 6d. (to be refunded in full if I write you that the Hyomei Treatment has done me no good), for which you will please send me a complete Hyomei Pocket Outfit, together with full directions for the application of the Hyomei Treatment. Foreign Orders 1s. extra.

Name .....
(Write very plainly, stating if Rev., Mr. Mrs. or Miss.)

Address .....

.....

IMPORTANT NOTE.—You are invited to write a separate letter to me, giving me full particulars of your trouble, and I will endeavour to send you a letter of special advice and guidance of how you may get rid of same.

(Signed) R. T. BOOTH.

The MOLASSINE DICKENS.

No. 1.—ALFRED JINGLE, Esq.

("Pickwick Papers").

MR. JINGLE'S WONDERFUL DOG.

"Keep dogs, sir?" said Mr. Jingle, turning to Mr. Winkle.

"Not just now," replied that gentleman.

"Ah, you should keep dogs—fine animals—sagacious creatures—dog of my own once—pointer—surprising instinct—out shooting one day—entering enclosure—whistled—dog stopped—whistled again—Ponto, no go; stock still—called him—Ponto, Ponto—wouldn't move—dog transfixed—staring at a board—looked up—saw an inscription—BUY MOLASSINE DOG CAKES—wouldn't pass it—wonderful dog, valuable dog that, and valuable biscuits—very."

They Aid digestion. Eradicate all worms and internal parasites. Keep dogs in good health, their coats and skins in fine condition.

From all Corndealers and Grocers, or The Molassine Co. Ltd., Greenwich, S.E.

City Office: 28, *Mark Lane, E.C.*

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAM.

To T. R. Ronald, Esq., late General Manager of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society.

SIR,—Your friends who followed the case of Ronald *v.* JOHN BULL must have been surprised at your absence from the witness-box. Your son was fighting to save his professional reputation. He was charged with being grossly incompetent, and, as a valuer, dishonest. It was due to you that he found himself in this unpleasant position. It was you, his father, who had appointed him, at an age when many young men are still at college, Assistant Valuer to the Society of which you were General Manager. It was you who in the course of a few years raised his salary from that of a junior clerk to the income of an Under-Secretary of State. It was you who gave him the opportunity of valuing all sorts and descriptions of estates, and entrusted to him the management of huge properties. If there was one person more than another who might be supposed to be in a position to testify to the young man's worth and value, that person was yourself. Your presence in the witness-box would have been of great assistance to the Judge and Jury. You would have been able to explain letters which, as read in the Court, left an unpleasant taste in the mouth. You would have been able to explain communications which on their face suggested double dealing. Nor can you plead ill-health as an excuse for not facing the ordeal of the box. You had just enjoyed a lengthened holiday in the Argentine, and returned in the vigour of health. How was it then that you were only conspicuous by your absence? There is only one explanation that will commend itself to men of sense—you dared not face the witness-box. Instead of playing the man and meeting your accusers, you preferred to remain away from the scene of conflict. It must have been a strong motive that induced this absence. I have no reason to suppose that, as a father, you are wanting in affection, and one would have thought that at all costs you would have stood by your son's side in a case the issue of which meant so much to him. At all costs! There's the rub!

JOHN BULL.

To the Hon. James McGowan, Premier of New South Wales.

DEAR PREMIER,—Very glad to welcome you, and hope you will be successful in your efforts to avoid dyspepsia during the Coronation festivities. But was it quite tactful of you to inform the Press that you were "almost afraid to think of the numbers of banquets and receptions" which you "will have to attend"? It sounds as though there were some element of compulsion about it, as well as a feeling of distaste. I notice that one of the first items on your enforced programme is "Lunch, Buckingham Palace." If you hate the idea of this so much, I have no doubt that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to excuse you.

I note, too, that you have learned with sorrow and surprise that a soft hat is not considered the thing in London in conjunction with a frock coat, and that you intend to wear one all the same, because you "know no more comfortable head-gear." That may be an argument in favour of a soft hat, but is not a very plausible excuse for the frock coat, which we now restrict to ceremonial occasions when soft hats are out of place. Your attitude towards kind invitations is also a bit barbarous. I know nothing about the manners and customs of the New South Welsh, but if they are in the habit of expressing vexation whenever they are offered free meals, they cannot be very charming companions. When you were a struggling boiler-maker, I wonder whether you ever anticipated the day when you would despise Royal banquets. Let me suggest to you that it is sometimes a mistake to be vain-glorious in the hour of wealth, and that—who knows?—the day may come again when you will be glad of the smell of turtle soup.

JOHN BULL.

Kaiser, Buckingham Palace.

Glad again see you in London. You are leaving invading army behind, I suppose? BULL.

To His Worship the Mayor, Bethnal Green, London, E.

DEAR MR. MAYOR,—The Borough Council of Bethnal Green are about to perpetrate, or by this time may have perpetrated, what has all the appearance of a job. For many years Mr. Robert Voss has occupied the position of Town Clerk in your Borough. That he is highly respected I have every reason to believe. In his retirement from his office I cannot doubt that he carries with him the goodwill of everybody acquainted with his high character and his services. He has already a retiring allowance of £218 a year; and if it had been proposed to make some additional special recognition of his work, probably public criticism would have been hushed in an overwhelming chorus of approval. But this, sir, is not what has been done. It has been decided to put a burden on the ratepayers by creating for Mr. Voss the novel, unnecessary, and grotesque appointment of Consulting Solicitor to the Borough, at a salary of £350 a year. Unless the Council now contemplate the appointment of an inexperienced gentleman to the office vacated by Mr. Voss, unless they intend to give the post to a mere dummy, or to somebody who cannot be trusted to do the work without risk to the interests of the Borough and the interests of the ratepayers, there can be as little need for a Consulting Solicitor in the case of the new Town Clerk as there was in that of the old one.

A Consulting Solicitor to a Town Clerk who knows his business is either an anomaly or it is a job; and those who are responsible for engineering an appointment of the kind must take their choice of the two descriptions. Whether, in fact, it is the one or the other, it is discreditable to the Borough Council of Bethnal Green that they should be willing to compel the ratepayers to pay £350 a year for its perpetration. On the resignation of Mr. Voss, the Council should immediately have taken measures for the appointment of a Town Clerk efficient and experienced in the work of Local Government. Having elected such an officer, it follows that he would not have needed the assistance of a Consulting Solicitor. The Council, however, preferred to go about an obvious business in another way. They first selected a Consulting Solicitor, and then they proceeded to think about the election of a Town Clerk. Can it be that the chief engineers of this amazing imitation of the methods of the old discredited and abandoned Vestries have in mind for the office of Town Clerk one who will not be appointed on the merits of his application in reply to the advertisements issued? I do not know, but I can assure your Worship I shall watch with interest, and certainly not without suspicion, the progress of events.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. D. G. W. Braddock, Board of Guardians, Rollesby.

DEAR SIR,—At the meeting of the Guardians the other day, in moving the re-election of the Rev. R. J. Tacon to the chairmanship, you were kind enough to state that one of your objects in supporting him was that "he gave a feed to the Guardians after the usual meeting of the Board." I trust this is not the noblest of Mr. Tacon's characteristics. It is certainly something in his favour, in any case, that he has won your enthusiasm as well as your regard, and in the future as in the past I trust the reverend gentleman will merit your approval and that of your colleagues in the office which he adorns, and I hope that good digestion will wait on appetite as long as he remains to direct your august deliberations.

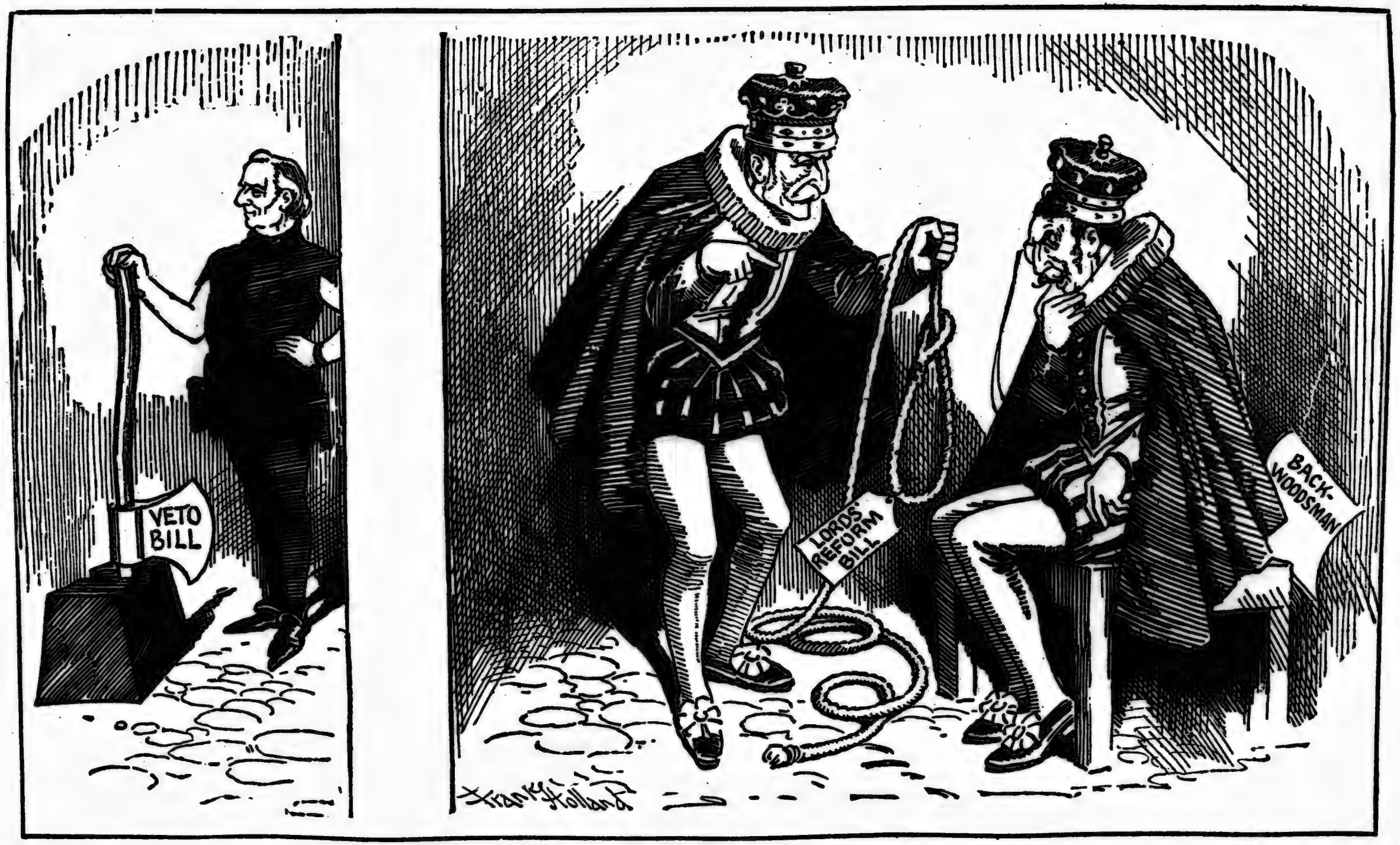
JOHN BULL.

To President Diaz.

DEAR DIAZ,—How very kind and considerate and condescending of you to announce that you will gracefully retire as soon as you are sure that a state of anarchy will not follow. I have noticed, after studying the habits of those lepidoptera called statesmen for a considerable number of years, that every one of them who has plied his wings to some purpose flies to the conclusion that he is the only butterfly in the animal kingdom. There was also a certain French monarch who foresaw nothing but a deluge after his demise. Evidently absolute power turns heads. Do remember that there are such things as revolutions, which are quite capable of sticking pins through the most perfect insect. By the way, is not it just a little bit late to talk so much and so loudly about your conscience?

JOHN BULL.

LANSDOWNE'S "LOOPHOLE."



THE WAY OF ESCAPE.

MAY 20TH, 1911.
JOHN BULL.
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JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

Slowly Rallying--Paris Firmer—More Active Speculation Looked For.

The dulness which has accompanied the close of the mid-May Settlement was caused partly by further liquidation of the remnants of the "Bull" account, and the position should now be quite sound, with the exception, perhaps, of *Rubber and Rubber shares*. From Paris, however, are now coming firmer advices, and speculation is reviving on the Bourse, notwithstanding the Morocco and Mexico positions. The fact is that the pessimists have overshot the mark, and the more sensible portion of the public do not heed all the wild rumours any more than the talk of the quidnuncs—"No more business until after the Coronation." I should think that, on the contrary, with all the high-and-mighty and wealthy persons of the world foregathering in London, there is plenty of reason for looking for active business. There is, of course, no trouble to be feared in International politics, and the monetary position is most satisfactory. *Consols* have been acquired by Continental capitalists on options, as they expect the National Insurance scheme will bring a rise in gilt-edged stocks. *Home Rails* have moved further downwards, but will probably firm up again, especially the *Passenger* stocks. Traffics for the week are up £72,000, which is very satisfactory, and a special "Bull" point might easily arise if the Triple Alliance (*Great Northern, Great Eastern* and *Great Central*) were, on the strength of the report of the Board of Trade Committee, to seek the authority of Parliament for an official working union. The agreement between the *London General Omnibus Company* and the *Underground* lines has already had important results, and the new competitor is apparently hanging in the balance. *Kaffir* shares should benefit by the excellent April gold output, and *Rhodesians* by the rich returns from many mines. The *Oil Share market* is in the ascendant again, and far more attractive than the *Rubber Share* department. *Tin* is again on the up-grade, and *Tin Mining* shares are firming up. The *Yankee market* is in a neglected condition, and will no doubt remain so until the Supreme Court has delivered the Trust judgments.

Kaffirs and Rhodesians Experience a Temporary Flash in the Pan—Westralians Somewhat Brighter—Unsatisfactory Copper Outlook.

No daylight can yet be seen in Kaffirs or Rhodesians, and the attempts which have occasionally been made to engineer an improvement have only proved flashes in the pan. Yet the fact should not be lost sight of that, although Kaffirs are now at a very low level, present prices carry practically a half-year's dividend, as the announcements will be coming forward in a few weeks' time. The *Rand Mines'* annual report is, of course, interesting, but really contains nothing new, as a cabled summary was forthcoming directly after the meeting. One of the weakest spots has been *Goldfields* at 5¼, as it would appear that the closing down of its subsidiary mine, the *Simmer East*, is only a question of time, and thus the *Goldfields Company* might be called upon in connection with its debenture interest guarantee. Diamond shares have shown greater backbone, especially *De Beers* at 18 13-16, on reports of considerable trade activity, but while Kaffirs keep so weak there is not likely to be much doing in this section. Rhodesians continue to move in very disappointing fashion, and *Tanganyikas* are no better than 4 9-16, despite a report that Mr. Robert Williams has fixed up financial assistance to the company, up to £600,000, in Brussels, and that the *Star of the Congo Mine* will commence smelting in another two months' time. *Hay Gold Mining* have fallen to 1 11-32, which can only be the result of forced realisations, as all the news from the property is of a very encouraging character. The Jungle market is in a bad way, and "Bear" covering, almost alone, has stopped the downward movement for the time being. There are persistent rumours that the *Ashanti Goldfields* is about to reduce its dividend, and poor development reports are to hand from the *Wassau West* and the *Effuenta Mines*, while the *Ashanti Quartzite* has suspended work until it is able to raise the wind again in a financial sense. Westralians have been very quiet, but rather steadier, and there is still hope for this department, if only developments at the lower levels in the various mines turn out more satisfactory. The same applies to the *Bullfinch Proprietary*, whose shares are now quoted at 1. Quite a feature has been the revival in Russian Mines, led by *Kyshtim Debentures*, at 127½ while *Lena Goldfields* are up at 5¼, but I advise caution in gambling in this section. *Broken Hill* shares have been more prominent than for a long time past, partly on the rising tendency of lead, while the financial rearrangements of the *Zinc Corporation* have created such a favourable impression that these shares, which are now also in sight of dividends, have risen sharply to 14s. An untoward development is the news that the *Great Fitzroy*, after a gallant struggle against adversity in one shape and another, is shutting down its mill, but continues smelting operations for the present. I have for a long time advised my readers to steer clear of copper-mining shares under present conditions, and latest developments lend additional point to my views. The "gentleman's agreement" amongst the American mines has altogether failed in its object, and will not be renewed after its expiry in July. This means an open market for copper, which has already declined, while the production is still exceeding the output. Copper-mining shares are, therefore, all flat, and it says much for the courage—although not for the prudence—of the directors of the *Spassky Copper Mine*, who are about to raise their capital by another 100,000 shares to acquire a controlling interest in the Atbasar Copper Fields. I should have thought that a conservative capital policy would have been most advisable at the present juncture. As to the renewed gamble in *Siberian Props*. and *Troitzhs*, it is to be hoped that there is this time a better foundation for it. A fair amount of business is passing in *Ontario Porcupine Goldfields Development* shares at 3-16 premium and in *Hollinger* $5 shares at 2 7-16, in which the former holds a considerable interest.

Oil Shares React and Recover—A Futile Attack on Maikop.

Profit-taking brought about a moderate reaction at one time, more especially in the Maikop group, where, moreover, an attack by an expert in a contemporary caused some Bear sales. Thus, *Maikop Victory* eased to ¾ prem., and *Black Sea Prefs* to 1⅛, while *Maikop Pipe Line Ordinary* were quoted 24s. The idea brought forward by the so-called expert, however, that there possibly might only be a few pools is absurd, and no doubt will duly be opposed by other experts who have more local knowledge, and to whom I, therefore, leave the refutation. Certainly the cable from the *Maikop Victory* that 6,900 tons have already been dispatched by the pipe-line, and that the well No. 1, which has been opened, is spouting strongly and continuously, does not point to a few pools, neither does the strong output of the *Black Sea Oil Company*. The next Maikop Oil Company to send oil through the pipe-line will be the *London and Maikop Oil Corporation*, and that should establish another important source of production. A new capital arrangement of the *Anglo-Maikop*, so as to extinguish the *Deferred* shares, has necessitated reo[illegible]isation. The Company's assets show a large excess over [illegible] capital, but the shares are easier now, pending the carrying out of the operation at 1¼ for the *Ordinary*, the present occasion having been used for taking profits. *Russian Petroleum* shares have advanced, and there are indications of a concerted movement to force the price of naphtha higher in Russia, owing to the increased demand and a decrease in stocks. *Shell Transports* were well supported by Continental buying against options, and are firmer at 8gs. 6d. *Spies* being also harder at 38s. 3d. *General Petroleum of Trinidad* advanced 1-16 to 13-16, on the arrangement with the *Consolidated Goldfields*. It is understood that the *Oil Trust of Galicia* will have its special settlement in about a fortnight. The production for April was 17,890 tons, but this small output was merely due to the Easter holidays. One of the most promising shares is now *Cheleken Oilfields*, and it is surprising that the price has not yet further advanced than 1 9-16 for special settlement. Several favourable cables have of late been received. One of these was to the effect that they commenced to pump away naphtha into reservoir ten days ago, that Well No. 2 is baling normally, giving 130 tons daily, and Wells Nos. 1 and 3 are following suit. A further cable is that the production for the week ended 8th inst. was about 629 tons. The Company has also made its first sale of oil to the *Volga Company*, being about 300,000 poods, deliverable in May, June and July. It is added that the terms "delivery on property at the Baku's official price, less commission" are most favourable, as the Company avoids all expense of trade and storage at Baku. As the issued capital is only 225,000 shares of £1 each, these shares are distinctly valuable, and together with *Maikop Victory*, *London and Maikop Corporation* are just now the pick of the bunch. *Red Sea* have hardened to 1 5-16, and *Egyptian Oil Trust "A"* are quoted 3¼. *Mexican Eagles*

are steady at 33s. 3d., the disturbed state of Mexico, of course, preventing any present improvement.

RUBBER POSITION STILL DISCOURAGING—"BEARS" MAKING HAY WHILE THEY CAN.

I have still nothing of an encouraging nature to report with regard to the rubber position, and this week's sales realised an average of about 2d. per lb. less than last time. The "Bears" are making much hay while they can, both in rubber and rubber shares, and they have, in fact, had it their own way so long that any turn for the better might give them rather a shock. I should not like to prophecy when this will come, as it depends very much upon when some definite progress is announced with regard to the Brazilian Syndicate, but there might be some significance in the undoubted fact that small investors have been quietly picking up 10 to 15 per cent. dividend-yielding shares. Moreover, while a considerable amount of forced liquidation has been taking place, the rumours of failures on the Stock Exchange and in Mincing Lane have not materialised, and that is so much to the good, at any rate. The course of the market may be gathered from the fluctuations in the index shares. On Friday, *Linggis* dropped to 43s. 6d., rallying subsequently to 44s. 3d. *Vallambrosa* at one time were not much above 30s., while the present quotation is 31s. *Anglo-Malay* were knocked down to 19s., and now stand at 19s. 6d. xd. The "heavy" shares have been more or less weak, and none more so than *Bukit Rajah* at 12½. *Tremelbye* have slumped to 4¾, notwithstanding the declaration of an interim dividend of 10 per cent., and another particularly weak spot has been *Pelmadulla* at 3¾. *Malaccas* have shown exceptional firmness at 9½, on French support. A further number of Directors' reports have been issued, but their effect has been nil. The low-priced shares have also been out of the running, although consistent support has been forthcoming for *Island Para* at 2s. 4½d. On the other hand, latest developments in connection with the *Dangan* have created an unpleasant impression, and these shares are no better than 1s. 10½d.

PICTURE THEATRES AND THE CORONATION.

The other day I referred to Music Hall shares, especially in connection with the Coronation festivities, which are attracting large numbers of foreign visitors to this country. I have since had a good many inquiries as to investment in picture theatres in the provinces, which my correspondents think, and rightly so, must also benefit greatly by the Coronation. After taking a general survey of provincial companies, I have come to the conclusion that the theatres run by the Entertainment Development Syndicate, Limited, of 5, Broad Street Place, London, E.C., and which are named the Lion Circuit of Picture Playhouses, offer considerable advantages over the others, and form an attractive investment in this class of security. As already stated, the Entertainment Development Syndicate, Limited, is operating this circuit of picture theatres. Each theatre is a separate company, and it is intended to amalgamate—if the shareholders so decide—all these theatres together into one large company, either this year or early next year. The theatres at present open are the Princess Picturedrome, Liverpool; the Loughborough Picture Playhouse, Loughborough; and the Luton Picturedrome, Luton; and arrangements are in progress for opening further theatres at Bootle, Longsight, Manchester and Hove, and this company has also an option to acquire the Brighton Alhambra, which it is intended to call in the future the Palladium. It will be useful to mention the following with regard to the theatres which have been opened. Liverpool has seating accommodation for about 1,000 people, and is situated opposite the Philharmonic Hall, in one of the most densely thronged parts of Liverpool. Luton was specially built for this company, and opened on May 8th, and has seating accommodation for 550 people. The place is entirely new, and decorated throughout, and held at a moderate rental with an option to purchase. Loughborough is situated in Ashby Road, Loughborough, and is a very pretty theatre. At present variety turns are being run there, in addition to pictures. In this case, the place is held on a 25 years' lease, with option to purchase on reasonable terms. The theatres have the advantage of organisation and control, and their being run by the Circuit causes considerable saving in the films, and also in the general management expenses. The shares of all these companies are of the denomination of 10s., the present price being 11s., while the capitals are small. This will allow of capital appreciation in the amalgamated scheme. People wishing to invest in picture theatre shares cannot, therefore, do better than in the above mentioned enterprises.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

HIGHER YIELD.—TYPE WINDER.—Transfer the money to Western Australian 3½ per cent. at 96½, and Newfoundland 3½ per cent. bonds at 97.

PEARSONS, LIMITED.—PEARSONS.—It is quite correct that there is no such company in existence, and the only possible way in which you might find out something about it is by applying to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, at Somerset House.

BREWERY STOCKS.—S. E. B.—I cannot trace the Burton and Lincoln Breweries, and there is certainly no market for the stocks. The latter remark applies also to Albion Breweries. Of course, all such concerns have suffered severely from the onerous taxation imposed upon them of late years.

ORANGE GROVES IN CUBA.—CLERICAL.—I have repeatedly said that I do not approve of business connected with missionary enterprises. This concern's shares are being peddled out by Dr. W. C. Minifie, of East Finchley, who is a missionary.

PREMIUM BONDS.—W. E. B.—No, the foreign firm in question is known to charge much higher prices than market quotations. I send you the name of some respectable foreign bankers in London who make a speciality of these bonds. E. H.—I am afraid you will not be able to get your Premium Bond, as the concern closed up some time ago. With regard to the Foreign Land shares, this is not exactly an investment, but a speculation, and you must make up your mind yourself whether to take an interest in it or not. O. K. (Stamford Hill).—Randfontein Estates should be held for an improvement. As regards the Premium Bonds, I send you the name of a firm of foreign bankers in London.

NEW HIPPODROME COMPANY.—MAN-OF-KENT.—I really do not care to express an opinion with regard to this promotion. It depends very much upon local conditions, and I should hardly think that the town in question would supply a large contingent of music hall patrons.

AVIATION PATENT.—A. R. O.—I really cannot assist you in finding a man to finance your patent. You had better advertise in the daily press.

PARTNERSHIP.—WINDERMERE.—I should think your best plan would be to advertise in *The Times* and in the *Daily Telegraph*.

OIL SHARES.—AULD REEKIE.—Cheleken oil shares are a fair investment, and so are Maikop Victory, and you should buy for special settlement, and await an improvement. ANXIOUS (Dundee).—I do not hold a favourable view of the Oil shares in question. Why did you not ask me before buying? J. K. T.—These oil shares have given way in sympathy with the rest of the market. The property, however, is developing satisfactorily, and the shares are hardening again. You had better hold. STOKE.—Highly speculative, but developing satisfactorily. It would not be worth while clearing out now. GEORGIUS.—I should not have recommended this purchase, but the Burmah is one of the few Scotch oil companies which has done comparatively well, and there is no reason to sell the Second Preference in a hurry. T. H. W.—Perhaps when this is brought to the notice of the guiding spirits of the Newfoundland Oil (Parent) Development Syndicate, they will vouchsafe some information as to the present position. Nothing is known beyond the scanty information contained in the statutory report submitted last August. BROWSE.—All that I can tell you is that an area of ten square miles is understood to have been proved oil-bearing, and that wells are being sunk. The results thereof must be awaited with patience. It is not improbable that the fall is largely due to forced selling from the North. M. KENT.—The latest accounts, for the period ended Jan. 13th, 1910, showed a credit balance of nearly £16,000. The rise in the price of crude oil should also benefit this company, and lately it has made some important discoveries. In the circumstances, it would be advisable to retain the shares. There is very little information available with regard to the gas concern, and I do not know of any particular reason to account for the diminution in dividend. Perhaps the character of the management has something to do with it.

NEWSPAPER SHARES.—A. B Y. Z.—I am afraid this religious publication is not exactly one in which it would be advisable to invest money. There are far better opportunities.

SLEEPING PARTNER.—ANTIQUARY.—I am afraid there is no chance here of interesting a sleeping partner in so small a concern. It would be different if it were larger. You ought to get the money locally.

CANADIAN INVESTMENT.—MELMERSBY.—I cannot encourage you to have anything to do with this concern. It is one of the doubtful American speculations.

OIL AND RUBBER SHARES.—READY.—(1) This is based upon the amount paid up on the shares. (2) Amongst the Rubber shares, Island Para are the cheapest, and amongst Oil shares I should prefer those of a higher denomination, say, Maikop Victory, at 1 prem. E. J. S.—With regard to Nos. 1 and 2, I should advise you to defer your purchases until the market develops greater stability. Maikop Victory (3) are a good purchase, also Cheleken. W. J. T. (Leith).—Yes, Oils would be preferable to Rubbers at the present time for your purpose, and my article will give you the necessary hints. MAYFAIR.—(1) No option but to hold these Rubber shares, which have declined in sympathy with the rest of the market. (2 and 3) I do not like these: so far it has been a case of promises versus performances. (4) Select four of the Oil shares recommended in my article T. C. S.—The following would be a better selection:—Maikop Victory, London and Maikop, Maikop Pipe Line Deferred, Cheleken Oilfields, Island Para, Jequie, and David Young. SPECULATION.—Exactly the same reply as to "T. C. S.," except that the Oil shares at present paying dividends are the older companies, but that other leading Maikop companies will soon be in the same position STIRLING CASTLE.—I do not care for any of the oil or rubber shares mentioned, and you cannot do better than give some attention to the selection mentioned to "T. C. S." As regards No. 4, these mining shares have some possibilities.

BEAUFORT MOTOR COMPANY.—W. P.—No other address is to be obtained, and the concern seems to have been wound up.

4 PER CENT. INVESTMENT.—B. G.—Put the money into Thames Conservancy 3 per Cent. stock at 77, and into Johannesburg Four per Cent. Municipal Three per Cent. stock at 99½.

OUTSIDE FIRM.—DOUBTFUL.—(1) I do not like this outside concern. (2) You can do much better in other stocks.

SPECULATIONS.—BIGWOOD.—The first six stocks mentioned are all good holdings, and likely to appreciate in capital value. They, however, are not suitable for purely speculative purchases. The latter applies more particularly to Shell Transports (7), but here you have to take considerable risks. I think that some of the Maikop shares would be preferable.

VARIOUS SPECS.—CAUTIOUS.—Put the money into Island Para (2), Harmony Props. (3), Chillagoe (6), London and Maikop (8), and Bolcobo Tin (10).

ATCHISON, ETC.—ZAMINDER.—(1) Highly speculative, but not unpromising. In any case, however, you must hold the shares, as there is little or no market for them. (2) Yes, after a lapse of six months. (3) Atchison are one of the best holdings in the American group, but the question of an advance is largely dependent upon the condition of the market generally.

RAILWAY PREFERRED.—H. E. (1) South-Western Preferred undoubtedly. (2) Greater prospects of capital appreciation. (3) Really gilt-edged investments do not give a yield of more than 3½ per cent. per annum, but sound 4½ to 4¾ per cent. securities include Great Central 1876 Five per Cent. Preference, at 116; Japanese Four per Cents., at 91½; Grand Trunk 4 per Cent. Guaranteed, at 94½xd.; John Barker and Co. 4 per Cent. Debenture stock, at 95.

PORCUPINES, ETC.—HUNTER.—With regard to your first question, the brokers will tell you. He will also inform you how to go about buying Porcupines. My articles will give you the necessary hints as to the best selection.

N.W. 3 PER CENT DEBENTURES.—W. D. R.—The present quotation is 85, and the stock is more likely to improve than to depreciate, if only because of the low value of money, which is always a "Bull" point for such gilt-edged securities.

DAGGAFONTEIN, ETC.—DUNDALLAN.—Daggafonteins have naturally gone down with the rest of the Kaffir market. Prospects are favourable, and you should hold, but do not average until the turn really does come. As regards G.M. Oilfields, encouraging statements were made at Friday's meeting, and these shares should also be held.

COMPANY SECRETARY.—J. R. P.—I think you can be compelled to attend and to give this information, but that, at the same time, you can claim your expenses. To be on the safe side, however, you ought to consult a solicitor.

HOUSE PURCHASE.—C. T. G.—If the particulars are as you state, the Public Benefit Sickness Corporation appear to have acted very harshly in taking over the house from you, unless it was on your wish, for being unable to pay only the last quarter's instalment. What you are entitled to is any balance that may be over after the house has been sold, and this company's claims satisfied.

HOME RAILS, ETC.—W. O.—(1 and 2) These have been forwarded. (3) Yes, the Railway dividends are paid half-yearly, the declarations being usually made in January and July.

RANDFONTEIN SOUTH.—A. A. (Morpeth).—Yes, the company has now actually been absorbed by the Randfontein Central, and you should at once communicate with the London transfer agents at 30-31, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C., in order to get your new shares.

SOUTH AFRICANS.—M. H. R.—With regard to Randfontein South, see preceding reply to "A. A." No option but to hold the other two shares for a recovery, along with the rest of the market. (1) Acquired by Mines and Minerals Exploration Co. in 1906; secretary, Mr. J. M. Mackay, Blomfield House, London, E.C. (2) Still in existence, and crushing, but no market for the shares. (3) Not now in existence. These shares are quoted at 4s.; they might have better chances when the market braces up again. (5) Almost moribund, the company being in urgent need of more capital. (6 to 9) All wound up long ago, and the shares are valueless. (10) The fortunes of this company have fluctuated considerably, and just at present the shares are out of the dealings again. (11) Not now in existence.

FOREIGN LAND INVESTMENT.—ENQUIRER (Kilmarnock).—There are no doubt great possibilities, but you must quite understand that it is very speculative, and I must leave you to make your own decision. Same reply to WORKING MAN (Cadoxton). Same reply to COLNEY HATCH. The documents are returned. G. L. (Dublin).—There are no doubt considerable possibilities with this matter, but, of course, it is speculative, and you will have to decide yourself whether to go in for it. Same reply to C. J. A. (Harrogate).

BANK SHARES.—LAPLAND.—It is not advisable to put all your eggs into one basket, and especially in the case of Bank shares. Instead, therefore, of buying more of those in question, you might devote some attention to the leading Home Railway stocks.

BANK SHARES.—NEW READER (Edinburgh).—While I do not think there is any present danger, you had far better sell your shares and invest the money in sound securities, which would yield you from 4½ to 4¾ per cent. If you wish it, I can recommend you a broker, a member of the Stock Exchange.

INDIAN GOLD MINES.—M. N. S.—The whole matter is so uncertain that it is quite impossible to interest anyone in it. You do not seem to realise the extent of even the Mysore district.

OIL CERTIFICATE.—A. E. W. (Kent).—You should again write to the brokers in St. James' Street, who are respectable, although an outside firm. They will no doubt let you have the certificate.

MINING INVESTMENTS.—EDINA.—I do not care for either, and certainly not for No. 1, which has now fallen upon bad times. You can do better in the shares mentioned in my letter.

RUBBER SHARES.—W. B. C.—In the present condition of the market it is impossible to judge of the immediate future. The shares mentioned, however, are the best of their kind, and I cannot advise you to sacrifice them at the present very low level. E. H. (Harrow); C. S. M., ETC.—With regard to the Selangor United, the required information has now reached me, and it appears that a balance of 9d. per share has still to be called up, and that the certificates have not yet been issued. A number of my readers are asking for information, and perhaps the secretaries of the company, Messrs. Guthrie and Co., Ltd., will enable me to enlighten them? M. M.—I should advise you to go slow with investment in Rubber shares at present, until rubber itself has found its level. Meanwhile, Oil shares look very attractive.

FOREIGN RAILS, ETC.—W. H.—Yes, you can hold both Foreign Railway securities, although neither is gilt-edged. I note contents of the prospectus, which has been returned to you.

RAILS; RHODESIANS.—A. E. B.—A further rise in Great Western is probable. As regards the Rhodesian shares, there is no reason for the fall, apart from the general weakness of the market. No option but to hold for the present.

GREAT EASTERN.—ELECTRIC.—Yes, a good holding amongst Home Rails, especially if you can get in on a temporary reaction. Your broker will tell you what the expense will be.

WEST AFRICAN CO.—KENTVILLE.—Highly speculative, but they appear to have about reached their zenith. Sell, and re-invest in some of the Oil and other shares recommended in my articles.

INDUSTRIALS.—OXO.—(1) Outside brokers. (2) All highly speculative Industrials, amongst which there is little to choose. If you want holdings of this kind, you should buy some of the Oil shares specially recommended in my articles. IVY.—Both are good Industrial Preference shares, but, of course, they rank only as second-class.

SPECULATIVE INVESTMENT.—J. P. (Swansea).—The best advice I can give you is to put the money into Home Rails and Oil shares, which are the markets of the day, and if you buy on temporary reactions, you will do well. My articles will give you the necessary hints JOHN.—(1) Chillagoe are a most promising mining holding, but you understand that they are somewhat speculative. (2) Pending an explanation of the fall in Lyons and Liptons, I would not advise a purchase. Some of the Oil shares specially recommended in my letter are worth attention.

KAFFIRS AND RHODESIANS.—DANDY.—It is still a question of patience with all your holdings. (1) The Transvaal Estates and Development is in a good position, and at September 30th last had a credit balance of nearly £76,000. Of course, the question of dividends depends largely upon a permanent revival in the Kaffir market. (2) Although the Henderson's is not in such a strong position financially, much the same remarks apply also to this company. (3) The British South Africa Company is understood to be earning a surplus, but I am afraid it will be a long time before this finds its expression in dividend payments. However, the shares are expected to reach at least 2 before the end of year, barring unforeseen developments, and it should therefore be worth while holding. (4) Developments on the Gaika have of late been distinctly promising, and crushing is proceeding steadily, but I cannot tell you when dividend payments will commence. However, it is worth while holding these shares also. D. D.—I cannot advise you to sell out of Randfontein Central and Cam and Motor, in order to go into Princess Estate. The former are every whit as promising as the latter, and should also pay big dividends eventually.

RHODESIANS.—REGINA.—All the Rhodesians in question are worth keeping, with the prominent exception of Jumboe (3), which, in the light of the latest news, should be sold on the first favourable improvement.

CANADIAN INVESTMENT.—GREENHORN.—I do not like this kind of investment, and it would be distinctly preferable to put your money into sound marketable securities, dealt in in this country.

FOREIGNERS.—J. M. H.—Japanese and Russian bonds may be considered good second-class holdings. From the point of view of possible capital appreciation, Home Rails, especially on reactions, are preferable.

JOHNNIES.—PAISLEY.—Hold these shares, but do not average until it is certain that the Kaffir Circus generally has taken a turn for the better.

TRUSTS.—VERITAS.—I do not like the system, and you should either put your money into sound securities, or into the P.O. Savings Bank.

INVESTMENT OF £80.—IGNORANT.—Yes, you might easily get 4½ per cent. in Home Railway Deferred, which are quite safe, or your stockbroker will advise you as to other securities.

MOLESWORTH BROTHERS.—O. P. B.—You will have seen reference to this matter in last week's issue. I understand that it will now be enquired into thoroughly.

EXTENSION OF SMALL MANUFACTURING BUSINESS.—C. F. C.—It is too small a matter for the Stock Exchange, and you ought to get this locally, or else advertise in the daily press. Same reply to L. T. C.

PURCHASE CERTIFICATE.—ANXIOUS (Edinburgh).—I do not see how I can help you, as you cannot afford to keep up your payments.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—W. J. (Birmingham).—There have been repeated complaints that T. Moreton Harris and Co., of Borough Buildings, John Bride Street, Birmingham, are not regular in their payments of profits when their clients have made any. STAND-AT-EASE.—I have received no complaints against No. 1, but No. 2 has occasionally fallen behind with payments. Both do, of course, a highly speculative business, and you can lose as easily as gain. BEAUMONT.—Both concerns are doubtful outside brokers, and I strongly advise you to have nothing to do with them. ARGENTUM.—It is a great pity that you and your friends do not read JOHN BULL carefully, or else you would have found in a recent issue an article on Duncan Forbes and Company, in which there is a special reference to the very same thing of which you complain, viz., that people cannot get their money. I do not see how I can help you, except to advise you to employ a solicitor. COMMERCIAL.—No, I do not consider the outside firm in question a reliable one or their speculations worth investing in. UNCERTAIN (Darlington).—It is a pity that you did not ask my opinion before dealing with Donnithorne and Company, of 28, Basinghall Street. Unless you are prepared to risk the law costs, I do not see what you can do.

MUSIC HALLS.—CHAFFEUR.—Amongst the entertainment shares select Drury also put the few hundred pounds you speak of into Home Railway Preferred Midland Deferred, and South-Western Deferred, are the best of the bunch.

(A large number of replies are unavoidably held over.)

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

KING INSURANCE CO.—C. D. (London).—Yes, we think so.

UNIVERSAL INSURANCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION.—KAIF (Smethwick).—You should keep up your payments.

MUTUAL LIFE AND CITIZEN'S ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED (OF AUSTRALASIA).—A. S. (Liverpool).—You need be under no apprehension.

INSURANCE AGAINST SICKNESS.—G H. (Manchester).—Of the four you name, we should prefer number one.

EXCESS INSURANCE COMPANY.—E. A. M. (Edinburgh).—We should prefer another selection.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.—VERITAS (Coventry).—There is no insurable interest.

ATLAS ASSURANCE CO.—ONE-AND-ALL (Cornwall).—We see no reason why you should not do so.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—D. F. (Glasgow).—We have heard nothing to support the statement to which you refer W. B. (Ewhurst).—We do not seem to have received your letter. Kindly send us a copy.

PRUDENTIAL.—M. A S. (Woolwich).—The policies would seem to be valid. T. G (Catford).—The policies are genuine, but we advise you to enquire at the head office as to what you will actually receive on them. We return the policies. W. T. (Cardross).—The policy seems to be in order. W. S. (Weybridge).—We think if you will make further enquiry you will find that the payments are not such as you have been led to anticipate. We return your policy. ANXIOUS (Bournville).—If there has been legal assignment, yes. DESERVING (Bristol).—There is no insurable interest. If, therefore, the company paid you, it would be as a matter of grace. H. S. (New Barking).—No. Having surrendered the policy for an agreed payment, and that payment having been made to you by the company, you cannot demand from it the balance between the sum received and the amount paid in. That should be obvious to you. BERRAVED (Port Talbot).—We are afraid you cannot enforce the claim, but you should consult a solicitor.

LEGAL AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—J. B. G. L. (Grimsby).—The answer to all your questions is in the affirmative.

BRITISH LIFE OFFICE, LIMITED.—C. F. (Leytonstone).—The answer is in the affirmative.

FOUR OFFICES.—L. H. C. (Blackpool).—All four are in the front rank, but you would get slightly better terms from number one.

LONDON, EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW ASSURANCE COMPANY.—W. R. N. (Uxbridge).—Evidently, in the opinion of the judge, there was no insurable interest, and that being so, you are helpless.

BRITISH UNITY SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT ADMINISTRATIVE CO., LTD.—J. A. J. (Barry Dock).—The answer is in the negative.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—H. W. (Hythe).—We cannot understand your letter. If the company charges you with financial irregularities your only course is to defend yourself in the ordinary way.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—C. J. B. (Ilford).—The policy is quite genuine. We return it under cover.

MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.—E. J. (Pontardulais).—You may be quite easy as to the financial position of this company.

ECONOMIC LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—W. A. W. (Wembley).—Yes, we should advise you to vote for the amalgamation.

PIONEER LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—L. D. (Fenton).—You are quite right in advising your servant to have nothing to do with the offer.

ROYAL LONDON FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—C. W. E. (Eastbourne).—We think you may go on paying on these policies, which are returned under cover.

BRISTOL COMMERCIAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.—H. A. A. (Blackburn).—The answer is in the negative.

BRITISH GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—A FIGHTER TO THE FINISH (Aberdare).—We should have thought it would have been better to amend the first policy, otherwise you may find yourself landed in costly litigation with unsatisfactory results.

PURCHASE OF ANNUITY.—R. P. (Bristol).—The Sun Life of Canada offers slightly better terms. As to security, we should say there is nothing to fear. For all practical purposes a first-class British office offers as good security as the Post Office Savings Bank, and this remark applies to one or two of the leading Colonial offices.

ANNUITY.—W. H.—Apply to the North British and Mercantile, Sun, or other companies of similar standing, and make your choice accordingly.

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CBT	16	5	0	SCR	18	3	0	ESN	24	15	0
JWM	26	0	0	RLR	14	0	0	PB	40	6	3
FB	15	15	0	ACC	19	15	0	FHW	20	0	0
WN	13	15	0	RRL	36	0	0	WGO	30	10	0
GR	13	3	6	Dr. TR	41	18	3	RY	55	10	6
WS	22	19	0	JTD	25	0	0	ER	16	14	6
EY	14	0	0	JS	20	0	0	AKJ	16	3	0
AH	18	15	0	Rev. AS	13	15	0	RSH	13	13	0
WW	20	0	0	HGB	34	17	6	AHA	14	0	0
AJ	18	0	0	CJP	21	0	0	FHW	50	10	0
ELF	75	0	0	ER	19	10	0	HWF	15	11	0
WW	24	17	6	WHL	14	15	0	EGB	20	0	0
Miss FS	15	0	0	WHN	21	0	0	JM	20	0	0
NB	50	0	0	JW	20	0	0	AST	50	0	0
WAH	26	2	9	SRF	24	0	0	CH	19	6	6
HEN	26	13	0	JBW	27	10	0	ERD	17	15	0
EHW	33	0	0	RY	40	4	6	TJB	18	0	0
FEJC	16	2	6	GBC	43	15	0	GH	20	10	0
ML	38	0	0	HF	19	4	6	CP	12	17	6
SHH	18	5	0	SCJ	14	0	0	GHP	33	11	0
FC	68	2	6	RD	17	6	6	JS	22	15	0
PB	17	10	0	GSB	23	5	0	W & BB	41	15	0
EHT	24	0	0	FC	75	0	0	JA	46	1	0
JWC	31	10	0	PB	31	0	0	WWT	27	0	0
WHStJM	29	5	6	HET	16	17	6	WRS	17	7	9
ARW	30	0	0	TKJ	15	5	0	WDC	27	10	0
FHN	62	12	6	CLW	37	5	3	RSH	35	10	0
JBP	36	19	0	RHB	21	0	0	LAW	14	5	0
WW	19	5	0	FC	31	0	0	Miss RT	14	0	0

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The National Share Exchange, Gt. Winchester Street, London, E.C.

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J.B. 20/5/11.

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OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER IN GLASGOW.

FARMED-OUT HOUSES—WHITE SLAVERY—SUNDAY DRINKING—THE GLASGOW PARISH COUNCIL.

FARMED-OUT HOUSES.

I candidly believe that more than five-sixths of the people of Glasgow are in a state of ignorance as to what the city is really like. They go to church on Sunday, do their work through the week, and leave the rest to Providence—satisfied that they live in the second city of the Kingdom, that they have the reputation of being good, and that the public-houses close all day on the "Sawbath." Well, this is how *some* Glaswegians live, and I feel that it would come as somewhat of a shock to the good citizens.

A farmed-out house is, I should think, a purely Scottish production; for although we know that in the slums of every city there is a large number of poor families who are compelled to live in one room, here they actually go out of their way to build such places specially. In a thoroughfare called Lyon Street, for instance, there stands a long row of houses—perhaps thirty or forty—of this type.

There are, roughly, nine rooms on each floor; in each room is a family. This means nine families on each floor. The majority of the buildings are five storeys high. This give an aggregate of forty-five families in the one house. They are regular rabbit-warrens, and if we take the ordinary estimate of a working-man's family at five, all told, we get the astounding figure of no less than two hundred and twenty-five souls under the roof of one house! And, as if this were not enough, some of them *keep lodgers*. There is exhibited over the door of each room a tablet giving the cubic air space and number of adults allowed, but this is honoured more often in the breach than in the observance.

There is one w. c. on each floor for the nine families, or the forty odd inhabitants, so the standard of privacy can be imagined. No wonder the people emigrate. Even Canada is better than this.

When one realises that there are streets upon streets of such places, the incomes from which in rents must be enormous, one cannot but look around for the natural outcome of such a bringing-up. Here it is:—

WHITE SLAVERY.

Closely adjoining these ant-heaps lies the salubrious neighbourhood known as Cowcaddens, and it is in the streets of this district that we find the product in its finished state. Girls of thirteen and fourteen openly soliciting at the street corners—not in ones and twos, but in dozens; children lost to all sense of depravity, who have never known any better, who glory in their shame, and whose sole boast is the number of "fares" they have had each night. Young as they are, they already know enough of life to chance a spell of prison for the opportunity of going through the pockets of a man who is under the influence of drink, and so that nothing should be wanting to complete the picture, should their victim "cut up rough" they have bullies within call, who will, for a part of the proceeds, soon settle such a trifle.

One naturally asks what the police are doing in this matter. Well, in a half-hearted sort of way they saunter around the beats, hoping to see something, but failing miserably, for as soon as the man in blue makes his appearance, off to their burrows scuttle the juvenile Aspasias, until he is out of sight. Most of these children are "run" by adults, who feed and clothe them, but who make no bones about taking all the profits. A visit during the day-time reveals five or six of these victims of men's greed and lust, partly clothed, crouching round a fire, in a roughly furnished room. As soon as a stranger comes in, their eyes gleam with cupidity, for this promises to be an "extra." When they find that one of their number is not likely to be "called," they lose interest at once. I suggest that there is plenty of work to be done here. I am told that the girls are utterly depraved; a gentleman informed me that he had on several occasions got them work to go to; sometimes they went for a few days and then gave it up, sometimes they did not even bother to go at all. Yet, not far away, in the main street, I counted no less than four outdoor prayer meetings, one conducted by a lady. I advise that next week they go "into the byeways," for nothing will ever get these poor little lost creatures to come out into the main streets in their ragged shawls.

SUNDAY DRINKING.

Mixed up indiscriminately with these dens of infamy are what are called "shebeens," where one (if known) can get a drink on any day of the week and more on Sunday. There is, of course, an element or risk, but you more than recoup the vendor for that in the price and quality of the drink.

If you don't want to run any risk you can still get liquor. I was told in England that it was impossible to get a drink in Scotland on Sunday. I shall want that man to apologise when I see him. He had evidently never heard of the clubs. The members pay 2s. 6d. per year, and 6d. per month. A visitor, as usual, signs the visitors' book. For this he can stay there and drink upon any day in the week until his money is done, or his credit is exhausted. When I visited the place on Sunday evening, there were perhaps two or three hundred men there; some were rough-looking customers, with a "past" written on their face indicative of discipline not altogether voluntary, others were the better class of mechanic. The place is open all day, and as late at night as necessity demands. A game of billiards was in active progress, and I was informed that if I cared to stay a bit later I could have a hand at cards; the reeking tobacco smoke and smell of stale drink made an escape into the open air preferable. These places must be a veritable gold mine to their owners, for I am told that some are actually the property of one man only, who scoops in all the returns.

THE GLASGOW PARISH COUNCIL.

This corresponds with the English Board of Guardians, and is presided over by a gentleman named Inspector G. R. Motion, who also acts as Clerk to the Council. The gentleman who was Medical Officer to this body is Dr. G. Bell Todd, Professor of Zoology to the Anderson College, who has half the alphabet after his name.

Some time ago the doctor was arrested for a supposed offence of some professional importance, but was found "Not Guilty" by the jury and discharged. The fact that the doctor had been exonerated by his fellow-countrymen, and discharged by the judge, was evidently not enough for the Parish Council, so at a public (?) meeting, held on May 2nd, they dismissed the doctor from his position. The matter was carried off in a very high-handed manner. Some ratepayers attended the meeting, which, as I say, was presumably a "public" one. They were refused admission. They persisted in asserting their right to be present, but it was of no avail. They were told politely that there was no room for anybody except the Council. It is a bit of a puzzle to know how a meeting can be called public when the room will not hold any but the members. The "public" in this case consisted of two only, but it was evidently decided that their desire to attend a business meeting was only curiosity, though, even so, I presume they were quite within their rights. They have taken the matter up in the Press, and perhaps will now get an apology and the assurance that it was all a mistake.

THE NEW GET-RICH-QUICK SCHEME.

(*Following upon the many thousands subscribed and donated to Sir Ernest Shackleton and Captain Scott, an appeal was made for twelve thousand pounds for Dr. Douglas Mawson, who is going to the Antarctic to draw a map. Half the amount was subscribed in one day.*)

Pauper! wouldst thou be rich beyond all expectation?
Then borrow not nor steal, lest folk cry, "Drat you!"
But just exploit some scheme of icy exploration,
And all the world will throw its money at you.

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Every Wednesday. One Penny.

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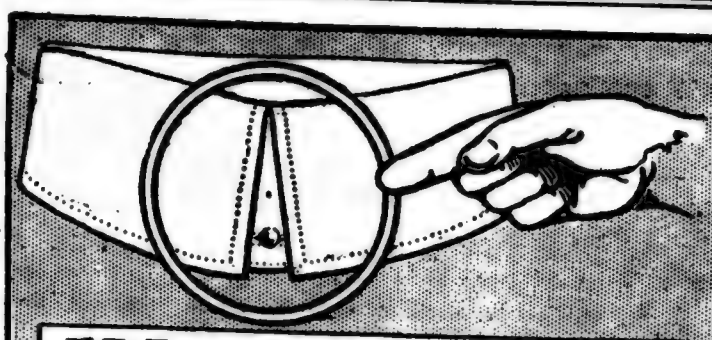

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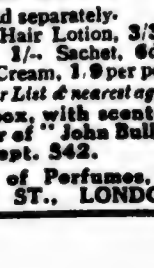

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SCENT of ARABY Regd

is exquisitely suggestive of Oriental luxury, and possesses a mystic charm that is quite irresistible. Connoisseurs speak of it as

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SAMPLES of the perfume and soap in a dainty box, with scented card for the glove box, will be sent to any reader of "John Bull" on receipt of 3d. in stamps. Mention Dept. 342.

J. GROSSMITH & SON, Distillers of Perfumes, NEWGATE ST., LONDON.

LETTERS FROM JANE ANN.

BEING COMMUNICATIONS FROM A YOUNG PERSON TO HER FRIENDS AND RELATIONS.

By Moore Anking.

Skibboridge Neuk,
Sitha, N.B.

Dear Aunt Margaret,—Since I been in Scawtland I seem to suffer from lassietude and not have much inklination for writing.

I s'pose it's change of air or something, auntie, though I have a lovely bunk and clean sheets every time they're changed.

Lord and Lady Dumchuck, people I'm staying with, got a nice place here. Game preserves and rhubarb farms and oh dear I couldn't give you no idea. Make all our own vejjytubbles so you can guess.

I do hope you are keeping middling well. You can't 'xpect to be over and above grand, can you, auntie? Not with one foot in the grave and the other at the undertaker's, as I might say.

Father used to reckon you ought to be in a Home and wear a tassel in your hat, but I always used to chas-tise him when he spoke thus.

One thing, auntie, I shall always feel greatful for your very kind training. Seems only like the day before yesterday you was teaching me manners and things, and how not to be a swanker, and not to put the hand where the hart could never be.

Our people here think a lot of me. I have my own quarters in what they call the White wing. Everything's white, from sealing to skirting-boards. Worst of it is the whitewashers leave so many buckets about, I have to watch points if the candle goes out before I get in the arms of Morfus.

I don't quite know who Morfus is, but our old housekeeper told me and another girl he folds everybody in his arms when they're asleep. I said Does he? And she said Yes everybody. So I said If he folds mother round the waist-line Mister Morfus'll have a strong job on. The other girl laughed and the housekeeper said We better leave it at that.

You'd like to know what I do on Sundays, wouldn't you, auntie? Well, I have to go to what they call the kirk, and I try to enjoy it very much. By the time the gentleman reeches thirdly all the week's trials and troubles seem to take the knock, and then I get full of piece till it's time to wake up.

Last time I went, being short of money—though I hope you won't send me anything you can't afford, aunt—well, when the man brought a plate round for the dibs, I'd only got one sollyterry brown, so I asked him to give me two ha'pennies for a penny. Then I put the penny in the plate and the ha'pennies in my pocket.

I don't like saying it, but he seemed a rather ignorant person. He's been round to see me. He can't understand whether he owes me a penny or I owe him tuppence. He says he don't suppose they'll trust him with the plate any longer. I've answered him pleasantly every time but nothing further, so now he's looking forward to the sack and I shouldn't wonder but it'll be a lesson to him.

The wind blows cool here at times. Up on the hills—they call them braes here, auntie, seems silly to me—well the wind's that rough you wouldn't bleeve. Went out one day not properly fixed, didn't have my things chained and battened down so to speak, and the breeze come along and nearly blew everything off me.

Just to show how I'm picking up the Scawtch langwidge—which is about all there is to pick up, the people being kind but very careful—I'm sending you a little verse about the wind:

I lost ma claes upon the braes;
Ye ken I didna mind it;
I gie'd a whustle an' I picked a thustle,
An' got hame safe behind it.

P'raps you'd like to put this in your album, auntie, it might do good some day. Might help a sister in distress.

If you get carridge to pay on a lovely box of dandylions, auntie, they'll be from me. We got some beauties here. I shaa't want any thanks. And now Goodbye auntie dear, for the time being.

Your de-voted niece,
Jane Ann.

HOVIS BREAD

Has for 25 years represented the highest standard of bread economy. HOVIS BREAD has more food in it than any other.

A Hovis loaf contains 100% of the semolina and as much germ as all the flour required to make 27 white loaves of the same weight.

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THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF NOURISHMENT

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Of all the elements in wheat, the germ—1½% of the whole—is by far the most nourishing. Much is made of the fact that this 1½% of germ is retained in certain breads.

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DR. ROBERT HUTCHISON the greatest living authority on Food questions, deliberately states that "with the free addition of butter or some other fat HOVIS BREAD IS NOT FAR FROM BEING A COMPLETE FOOD."

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Wide choice of exclusive ALL-WHITE patterns; also with fast-colour borders, backed by the unique Guarantee:—

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Your Outfitter will show you the patterns; if any difficulty, write to

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Give splendid wear.

For Men of taste.

9d. each. Half-dozen 4/3

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FLANNEL SUITS

exactly meet the want in summer clothing. They afford every comfort because they are made on studied lines, and always look well on account of the excellence of the materials used. Durability is a particular quality, and the prices represent sterling value.

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"BRIDLINGTON"
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THE "BRIDLINGTON."

39/6 *Suit Complete.*

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WAR ON HIGH-PRICES OF MEN'S CLOTHES.

This £3 : 3 : 0 Suit for 30/-

War on high-prices of Men's Clothes has been declared by one of the biggest firms of tailors in London, Messrs. G W. Rosenberg (the "Rego" Clothiers, Ltd.), of the 20 addresses printed below.

They are making to the measurements of their customers splendidly-wearing West End cut 3-guinea suits for the price of 30s.

One of the most popular of these "3-guinea suits for 30s." is the "Rego-Washington" here illustrated.

This suit is cut on the loose, ample, comfortable lines so fashionable this season. To its wearer it gives a broad-shouldered, muscular and impressively powerful appearance.

The stylish easy lines of the trousers prevent that bagging at the knees inevitable with tightly-fitting nether garments.

Every line of this suit displays the skill and genius of the "Rego" Co.'s West End Master Cutter. Every detail is perfect. Special high-quality thread is used. This thread never fades or turns white, grey or pinkish, as often happens with cheap inferior thread, to the great deterioration of a suit's appearance.

This Suit Makes a Man Look Big and Strong.

The "Rego-Washington."

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WALHAM GREEN.—14, The Broadway.

(See Exhibition of one dozen different "Rego" Suits at the Festival of Empire, Crystal Palace.)

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

"THE GREAT LAFAYETTE."

Is the Great Lafayette really dead? Who knows? Who can ever tell? Bereft of the thing he loved dearest of all on earth—his dog "Beauty"—firmly believing that with the death of this adored animal his luck in the theatres had come to an end, that nothing but disaster threatened him in the future; knowing that his lengthy performance on the music-hall stage was about the biggest "swank" turn that ever succeeded, and that, like the famous Davenport brothers, he was bound to be shown up sooner or later, what could be more natural to a man of Lafayette's extraordinary temperament than to suddenly find himself face to face with the solution of a problem he perhaps had been trying for ages to unravel—namely, the way to disappear, and leave no trace behind him? That the one body was identified and cremated as that of the Great Lafayette, and the mistake proved, has already been established. Why then should not the second body, charred beyond all recognition by the flames in the Edinburgh fire, be another case in point? A small dagger found on the first corpse was the only trace by which it was certified to be that of the missing showman. A diamond ring discovered on the finger of the second body apparently leaves no doubt in the minds of the people who have seen the burned mass that this *must* be Lafayette, but it does not seem to me to clear up the mystery. Why should not the "double" have worn a diamond ring, too? The ring would have been such a "give-away" unless its duplicate had been placed on the hand of the substitute as well. You must remember that the tricks performed by Lafayette were done with such lightning speed that they gave you but little leisure for reflection. The gorgeous blaze of colouring, the noise, the bustle, and the excitement carried you completely away for the moment, and so powerfully did the man sway his audience for the time being that he was able to occupy nearly the whole evening's bill in the two performances a night variety halls. Do you suppose a person such as this, then, would be content to "fizzle" out" in the ordinary way? I don't! Some say they saw Lafayette leave the burning theatre, others say he returned, but my theory is that in one of his numerous disguises he seized the opportunity to escape and so leave behind him the record of a tragic finale to a marvellously successful London career. The ruse could do no harm to anybody, but to Lafayette's imaginative mind it would prove intensely attractive—grim and ghastly as the end of his fellow-workers was. A stone's throw from where I live is Lafayette's house—a board "To Let" was in front of it for some time; it was still lying down by the area steps last week. A strange poster of a dog, a knife, and the soul of the animal being taken heavenwards was some while ago condemned by the L.C.C., who refused to allow it to be put up on any of the street hoardings. Amidst painted trees and embellishments outside his house in Tavistock Square there once appeared these words, "The more I see of men, the more I love dogs," but this sentence was removed later on, why, I don't know. But somehow there abides with me the feeling that the Great Lafayette is not yet dead. I may be wrong. I hope I am not; but, anyway, none of us is *ever likely to know*.

AT DALY'S.

You must prepare yourselves for a delightful treat—that is to say, those of you who are lucky enough to be going to the première at Daly's, on Saturday night, when Franz Lehar's "Count of Luxembourg" with book by Basil Hood, and lyrics by Adrian Ross, will be staged. Prepare yourselves also for another haunting waltz—which will probably be known as the "stair" waltz—more I must not tell you, for I have promised to keep silent on such matters.

JOHN BULL'S Companion Journals are **MRS. BULL**, published Tuesdays, and **LOTINGA'S WEEKLY**, published Wednesdays.

A Great Invitation

Would you like to visit the magnificent Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace free of all cost?

The "Daily Sketch" is giving **TEN THOUSAND** free tickets of admission, including railway fare from the principal London railway stations.

Get a copy at once and make early application for your free ticket.

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ON SALE EVERYWHERE. **ONE HALFPENNY.**

Under the Searchlight

—A "John Bull" Investigation.

After a searching investigation, "John Bull" guarantees the genuineness of the following and hundreds of similar letters. These unsolicited testimonials are from doctors and nurses. No finer proof of merit could be offered than these appreciations from those who understand the theory of, and have realised in practice, the marvellous health-giving virtues of Hall's Wine.

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"I find Hall's Wine most beneficial in cases of Sleeplessness, especially if taken with a biscuit on retiring to bed."

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"In cases of Neuralgia I know of nothing that acts so rapidly as Hall's Wine, and since taking it I have improved in every way."

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"Having been very ill with Bronchitis, I was a great deal 'run down.' I was recommended to try Hall's Wine, from which I derived the greatest possible benefit."

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"After a bad attack of Influenza and Nerves, Hall's Wine has built me up entirely, and I shall most certainly recommend it to my patients"

No. 1,096.
"I consider Hall's Wine a very good tonic and always recommend it to Convalescents."

No. 806.
"I have much pleasure in speaking of the benefit to be derived from Hall's Wine. I consider it one of the best tonics on the market. I recommend it freely in my practice and hear nothing but good results. In cases of Neurasthenia, Debility following Influenza, etc., it works wonders. I shall always go on recommending it. The old people you sent a bottle to, say I am to tell you it was a perfect godsend, and worked miracles."

No. 774.
"I find Hall's Wine very good indeed. I was very 'run down' and it quite set me up again. I shall be more than pleased to recommend it to my patients—in fact, I have already done so."

No. 668.
"I can personally testify to the efficacy of Hall's Wine. I am at present nursing a heavy case (paralysis), which is very exhausting to me. I find Hall's Wine a magnificent pick-me-up. I generally take it at 11 o'clock, with a biscuit. It quite restores me."

No. 821.
"I appreciate Hall's Wine very much indeed, and its marvellous restorative properties. I have a patient over seventy years of age, who started taking Hall's Wine. After the first bottle she said she felt like doing a good day's work. No doubt it is a Marvellous Restorative."

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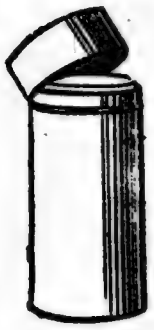
"I can, without hesitation, recommend Hall's Wine to any one suffering from Insomnia, Anæmia, or Nervous Disorders, and as a restorative after illness I do not know its equal. I speak from practical experience and observation."

No. 975.
"I take this opportunity of testifying to the wonderful tonic effects of Hall's Wine. I was very run down, but felt quite restored after taking it for three days. I shall always use it in future."

No. 976.
"I have great pleasure in testifying to the tonic powers of Hall's Wine. I was recently in a very run-down state of health, and required strengthening before I could attend to my work. I found that a very small quantity of Hall's Wine—a wineglass twice a day—was sufficient to invigorate and strengthen me enough to enable me to do my work. I shall always speak well of Hall's Wine."

Hall's Wine is a nutritious Wine Tonic. It supplies nerve nourishment that ensures freedom from neuralgia, sleeplessness, brain-fag, depression, and all nerve weaknesses and pains. The sure way to secure protection against chills, colds, coughs, influenza and "spring-time" ailments is to take Hall's Wine to-day.



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Your skin can *not* be in the best condition unless the shaving stick you use is *really* best. Actual merit is the only argument that your pores will recognise. Let your pores decide for themselves. Their decision will show plainly in the appearance of your skin.

Shave with Williams' Shaving Stick and learn the difference between Williams' and the best other Shaving Stick you have ever used.

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—the "IMPERIAL" is the Racket that we confidently recommend for hard usage. There is nothing better for swift and hard service or a smashing return. It is British-Made, has bound shoulders and is obtainable in weights, 12, 12½, 13½, and 14 ozs. Carriage Paid in British Isles.

7/6

Write for Our Sports List.

SELFRIDGE & Co., Ltd.,

OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.

The John Bull League.

BRANCH REPORTS.

LEEDS.—As will be seen by the advertisement appearing on the first page of this issue, the Leeds Branch are holding their first annual dinner on Monday next, when the guest of the evening will be the late Chairman, Mr. W. B. Russell, who is about to leave for Australia. It is hoped that members will show their appreciation of Mr. Russell's efforts on behalf of the League by attending in force.

PLYMOUTH.—In our report of the smoking concert in the Palm Court of the Royal Hotel, held on May 3rd, we omitted to mention that Messrs. Sobey and Barrett contributed a humorous item, which was received with great applause.

BRISTOL (WEST).—A very successful meeting was held in the West Ward of the Bristol Branch at Hamilton's Rooms, Park Street, on Friday last, May 12th, over which Mr. M. Waldron presided. Prior to his speech a splendid musical programme was provided, which included the following artistes:—Miss Lillian Jones, who gave a pianoforte solo; Mr. J. Eastman, who sang, "Chip of the Old Block," and "The Bandelero"; the Sisters Kleinadt, in a duologue; Mr. Andrew Beer rendered "Alice, where art thou?" and "Marguerita," and Mr. F. J. Weeks, "Three for Jack." The audience were also delighted with the appearance—direct from the "Empire," where they had just been successful in the semi-final of the Amateurs' Carnival—of the Two Pooles, two little girls, whose performance was very clever and much appreciated. The concert was a distinct success, the various items being received with hearty applause. After the League song had been delightfully rendered by Mr. F. J. Weeks, Mr. B. G. Brown spoke on "The Aims and Objects of the League." In a spirited address, Mr. Brown pointed out that the League would welcome true Christians of any and every denomination into its ranks. Again welcoming supporters of all political parties, he emphasised the fact that men of backbone and mental strength were badly wanted, to interest themselves in their country's welfare. On the political side he pointed out how urgently political reform is needed. He splendidly outlined some of the absurdities and anomalies of our political procedure, ruthlessly exposing much of our past and present legislation. Dealing with the social side of the League's activities, he drew attention to the manner in which in free England, by the concerted action of a minority of religious killjoys, we were being deprived of many of our legitimate pleasures. Criticising the judicial benches, he pleaded for reform and a more careful selection of magistrates. In conclusion he invited the non-members present to sign the application forms and join the League. His speech was punctuated with hearty applause, and after answering a few questions the meeting closed with the National Anthem. Thanks are due to the accompanist, Miss Lillian Jones, whose services greatly helped to make the meeting such a great success. A large number of new members were enrolled.

ABERDEEN.—An open meeting was held on Tuesday, May 9th, in the Café Vegetaria, for the purpose of inaugurating the Aberdeen branch of the John Bull League. There was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen, with ex-Parish Councillor M'Donald in the chair. The Chairman said he was glad to see such a large gathering for such a cause. He had often wondered when they would be able to establish a branch so far north. He felt sure such a League would do much good in Aberdeen, and he hoped they would soon be able to compare their branch with those in Glasgow or Edinburgh. (Applause.) In the words of the President, the objects of the League were to oppose cant and self-righteousness, and, independently of all sects and parties, to create a robust public opinion in a self-respecting and self-reliant nation. Mr. W. Lobban then read to the meeting the objects of the League. The Chairman intimated that they had hoped to have heard Mr. Bain sing the League song, but owing to indisposition he was unable to do so. Membership forms were handed out for signature, with the result that the membership of the local branch now numbers 160. The following were appointed as a committee, one member to represent each ward in the city:—*Torry*, ex-Parish Councillor M'Donald; *St. Clement's*, Mr. E. Brown, 90, Park Street; *Greyfriars*, Mr. A. MacAndrew, 55, Gallowgate; *St. Machar*, Mr. Fairweather, 58, Elmbank Terrace; *Woodside*, Mr. G. M. Lobban, 349, Clifton Road; *St. Andrews*, Mr. Finnie, 14, Jasmine Place; *St. Nicholas*, Mr. Massie, 22, Charlotte Street; *Rosemount*, Mr. Joseph Fraser, 19, Millbank Lane; *Rubislaw*, Mr. James Hume, 9, Hill Street; *Ruthrieston*, Ferryhill, Mr. J. Ross, 69, Albury Road. It was unanimously agreed that meetings be held in future once a fortnight, at a place to be arranged later. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.

GLASGOW.—In view of the activity which is now being displayed by this branch, Mr. H. McCone, of 1,222, Springburn Road, Glasgow, will be glad to hear from members who have recently removed, in order that the register may be corrected.

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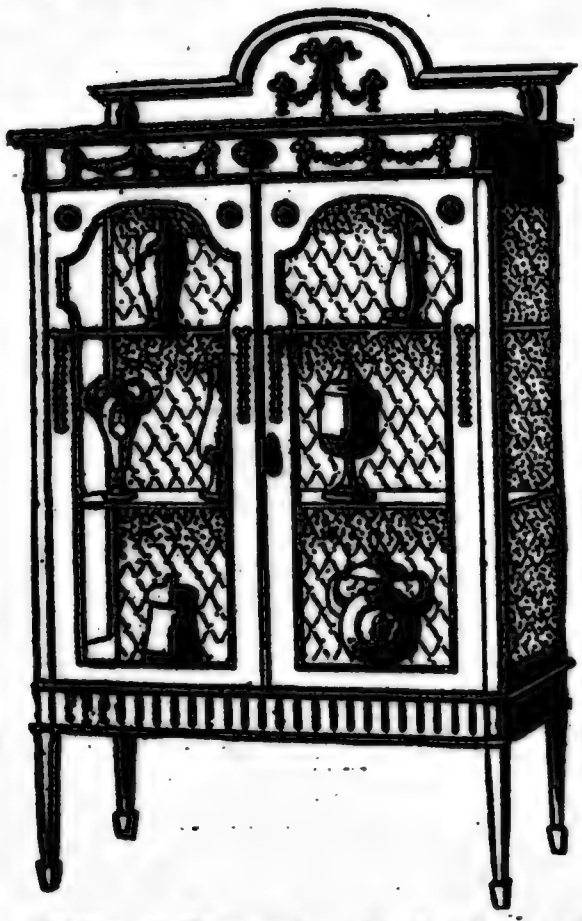

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BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Should it be "reform" or "re-form" as applied to the Lords?
Isn't a recent appointment still a Soare point?
Isn't John Burns' Milk Bill overdue?
Is the War Office "messing adviser" an expert "messer"?
Won't some folk have to take a back seat at the Coronation?
Isn't the evidence at election petitions usually re-lie-able?
Will the Jerusalem excavators try Jericho next?
Will the National Insurance Bill insure the nation?
Wouldn't trams in Park Lane prove an electric shock?
Isn't most public bathing pretty "mixed" already?
Did the Brooklands aviators strike for "higher" pay?
Isn't a Chinese chicken a tough proposition?
Has the grievance on the Twopenny Tube been "aired"?

The *Mail* suggests a Minister of Fine Arts. Able to draw a big salary, we presume.

Mr. Churchill would like golfers to select caddies from the unemployed. But would they be content with tee?

"Bad temper is a disease," says Dr. Ash. But when we lose it we have it the more.

The Crown Prince of Bulgaria has passed an examination as an engine-driver. He should now be popular with all stations.

Judging from letters in the Press, there seems to be a good deal of stamping about the Dickens' scheme other than the desired sort.

During the recent champagne battles, there must have been a good supply of grape shot.

"Be my star of hope," was an extract from a letter read in a recent breach-of-promise case. It soon paled, before the moonshine.

We read of another Baronet organ-grinder. Some people are never satisfied with only one handle to their name.

The *Mirror* thinks the Abbey is now like a shipyard. There will be plenty of peers there soon.

We are told that Mr. Churchill spent his holiday by the sands. His opponents consider him always at sea.

We hear of ankle bathing gowns. A good way to air 'em.

"There are too few women architects," says the *Queen*. We thought women were always making plans.

"My son always sings before his supper," said a woman at the Enfield Court. Too many have to whistle for it.

Mushroom won the City and Suburban. The others could not ketch-up.

"Ducks are sadly neglected," says the *Poultry Record*. But the cricket season has commenced.

"My husband was 80 in the shade," said a woman at Tottenham. We presume she meant he had been in the sun.

We are told that "Kismet," at the Garrick, glows with colour. It is only fitting that it should burn to an Asche.

"£120 for a hat," we read. We hope there was something in it.

"Morocco in the Melting-Pot," reads a headline. Having a warm time, certainly.

A correspondent wishes to know how to become a contortionist. Stepping with the bare feet on a few upturned tacks is a good prescription.

Heading: "Gas Escapes in Church." Nothing new.

Sore Toes won a race at Wolverhampton. Wonderful feat!

"Playing with Fire" is the title of a new play. We trust those responsible won't burn their fingers.

The *Englishwoman* says, "More nonsense is talked about the birth-rate than about politics." Impossible!

According to the Census, there are forty males and forty females in the Island of St. Kilda. How odd!

Save from execution, there has been no death in Pentonville Prison for over a year. Yet we hear of inmates dying to get out.

"Our schools give a sort of parcel-post education," says Father Vaughan. Yes, and it bears the wrong stamp.

You cannot afford to experiment

with Foreign Shaving Soap when experience has *proved* that the soap which is purest and best, and which does not smart or dry on the face is the

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"Erasmic" SHAVING STICK

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If you contemplate having your furniture re-upholstered ask to see REXINE. Without doubt it is the most distinctive furniture covering there is.

Made in all leather grains, it is more durable than leather and can be washed when soiled. And its cost is one-fourth that of leather: better and cheaper.

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Quaker Oats

One pound of proteid, the important body-building element of food, can be obtained from oats for 7½d. Derived from beef it would cost 2s. 8d. And of the mineral substances which form bones and teeth and nourish the brain, nerves and tissues, 1lb. of white flour has only 40 grs.; a pound of wholemeal has 119 grs. A pound of oatmeal has 147 grains.

All the world knows that Oat-food is supplied in the most perfect form in Quaker Oats, with its thin, easily-cooked, easily-digested flakes, its delicious flavour and its absolute purity. By reason of special milling, Quaker Oats—unlike ordinary oats and oatmeal—does not overheat the blood.

Prove these statements in your own home—use Quaker Oats for Breakfast and supper for the next 30 days and see the reduction in table expenses and increase in your health and energy.

Remember—Quaker Oats is sold only in sealed packets, which protects you from inferior food and the food from dust, loss of flavour, etc.

NO MORE FACIAL ECZEMA

The most severe and obstinate cases cured.

Gunner J. S...of Cahir Camp, writes: "I had a fearful rash all over neck and face. I used various things, but got no benefit till I used Antexema, and it cured me in ten days."

Are you suffering from eczema, either on your face, neck, or behind your ears? If so, it is needless to remind you of your misery. There is only one thing you want to know—how to get rid of your trouble. To do this, you must use Antexema. In tens of thousands of cases Antexema has cured after all other treatments, doctors, and hospitals had absolutely failed. Antexema is so certain to cure you that you ought to use it, and the longer you delay, the longer you will suffer.

We are anxious every reader should recognise that Antexema is quite unique. There is nothing else like it, and that's why it succeeds when all else fails. Instead of being a greasy ointment, it is a beautiful creamy liquid made in our own laboratory under perfect supervision. Antexema is absorbed as soon as applied, and forms an invisible, antiseptic covering to the affected part, and keeps out dust and germs, whilst it heals the trouble. As soon as it touches the irritated or inflamed spot, all itching and burning pain magically disappears, and those unable to sleep comfortably for months, owing to maddening irritation; enjoy restful sleep the first night they use Antexema.

Antexema cures every skin illness, so that you need not despair, whatever your skin illness, or however long it has lasted. Angry-looking pimples, blotches, blackheads, bad legs, eczema, either dry, weeping, or scaly; face spots, baby rashes, scalp trouble, skin irritation, and sores, are all completely and permanently cured by this miraculous remedy. One word of warning. Never neglect the early signs of skin illness. It is so easy to cure any skin illness when it starts that there can be no possible excuse for running risks of suffering disfigurement and humiliation.

Do your duty to your skin. Go to any chemist or stores and get a bottle of Antexema to-day. Boots Cash Chemists, Army and Navy, Civil Service Stores, Harrod's, Selfridge's, Whiteley's, Lewis and Burrows', supply it at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle. Also obtainable in India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, and throughout Europe.

If you wish to try this all British skin-cure beforehand, sit down at once and

SIGN THIS FORM

To the Antexema Company, 83, Castle Road, London, N.W.

Please send me booklet, "Skin Troubles," for which I enclose 3 penny stamps, also Free Trial of complete Antexema treatment, consisting of Antexema, Antexema Soap, the ideal skin soap, and Antexema Granules, which purify the blood.

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ADDRESS.....

JOHN BULL, 20/5/1911.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," AND ONLY* THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as, *though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE is increasing steadily. In future, we will disregard any letter which is not duly authenticated with name and address, which may be given in strict confidence.

FORWARDING LETTERS, ETC.—Our correspondence is growing so enormously that we have to discourage all idea of PUTTING OUR READERS INTO COMMUNICATION WITH ONE ANOTHER. *If the practice grew, we should want an extra staff of clerks, fresh offices, and Jim Crow to keep the peace.*

RONALD *v.* "JOHN BULL."—The Editor desires to thank the numerous friends who have sent their congratulations on the result of this case.

TURNER BROWN, who left home about nine years ago, and went to Dawson City, Canada, is requested to either write or call upon his father at Sandyford Farm, Blacko, near Nelson, Lancs.

C. R. (Stockton-on-Tees) wants to know when *Jim Crow* was at the 'Varsity. But that might give a clue to his age.

D. R. (Kirkcaldy) wants us to draw up rules for his *Bachelors' Club*. We can only suggest—RULE 1.: Spinsters shall also be admitted.

MESSRS. EXELL BROS. (36-38, Ellesmere Road, Sheffield) wish us to state that they are in no way connected with the "X.L. Manufacturing Co.," upon whose method of inducing tradesmen to stock a washing powder we commented last week. Messrs. Exell think this necessary, as they are in the habit also of using the letters "X.L." as a trade mark.

G. M. (South Bermondsey) writes about the appalling number of *electric wiremen* out of employment. His remedy is to compel everyone who can afford electric lighting to have his premises overhauled every year. He might just as well ask that the owners of clocks should have them compulsorily regulated every month.

MR. W. PULLUM, of the *South London Picture Gallery*, 5, Church Street, Camberwell, writes that he did consult the police about the unscrupulous persons who worked the "free enlargement" swindle under the title of his business. But the police refused to do anything unless a victim would prosecute. All we can do is to spill 'em over the coals.

E. H. (Bloomsbury) says our Commissioner's picture of *market day at Sheffield* is right enough. "I am a Sheffield man myself, and my experience tells me that the more friendly a Yorkshire business man is with his customers the more patronage he gets. What harm is there in a friendly drink between buyer and seller?" None except, perhaps, to the pocket of the buyer.

"VICTIM" (Hackney).—Not perhaps now. *Mrs. Bull* will pay a visit herself.

H. C. (Plumstead) sends us circulars from the Kent County *Football* Association inviting registered *referees* to sell tickets for a "Great Athletic Rally," and stating that "a record will be kept of everything done by referees as such, to forward the interests of this event." He considers that this amounts almost to intimidation, and says that many referees have a very unprofitable time. Why then do they stick to their jobs?

P. H. S. (Brighton) sends us the circular of a local *wine merchant* who sells real quarts and pints instead of the reputed measures. He exclaims on his price-list "I am *grateful to God* for giving me the thought to commence this system." This manifestation of godliness appears to be due to the fact that his cellars are situated under the Chapel Royal. The idea evidently is that the godly love good measure.

"LONDON" (Chelsea) received a circular from A. Harrison, who runs a *football competition* at The Hague and recently published the names and addresses of nine people alleged to have divided a prize of £300. Our correspondent wrote to two of them, but the letters were returned marked "Not known." What has Mr. Harrison to say in explanation?

J. H. (Nuneaton) sends us a cutting from *The Midland Counties Tribune*, telling us that "the animal that nearly won the *Grand National* retrieved himself by securing the *Lincolnshire Handicap* last week." This is almost worthy of a famous novelist, who told about a horse which won the Derby three years in succession, and who wrote about the stroke of the Oxford boat that "though all rowed fast, none rowed so fast as he."

MR. P. SHARP (School House, Whitchurch, Cardiff) asks us to state that he was not our informant in regard to the Cardiff guardian, Mr. Lewis, and his eighteen-year-old contractor son. He adds, "If I had sent it I should not have been ashamed, for I entirely disagree with persons receiving work from a body on which relatives sit." He also states that much good has come of our exposure.

J. B. (Banff) is suspicious of our number scheme. He enquires what work is necessary to qualify holders of successful numbers to receive the two guineas. "Is not my buying your paper weekly, and being at the expense of sending on each week's number, sufficient? . . . I wonder if any one of your subscribers ever received these two guineas. . . . I see lots of claims being acknowledged, but never hear of any payments." "J. B." is afflicted with that unreasoning suspicion founded on ignorance. If he will kindly read the terms of the scheme he will see that it is absolutely unnecessary "to send on each week's number"—he should hold his covers until he sees the announcement that one bears a successful number.

(*Continued on page* 814.)

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Rain resisting Coats (Rain but not Air Proof), to measure 30/-

Dress Jacket and Vest (silk facings), just the thing for Evening and Social Functions, beautifully trimmed, thoroughly well finished, to measure 28/6

Wirestrand Suits, guaranteed for 2 years' hard wear, to measure ... 32/6

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£100 IN PRIZES

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You have tried limericks and possibly have never invented a winning line. Has the fault been yours? Probably not. The task may have been too difficult or the judging not wise, but whether you have or not, you should try the latest thing in competitions, "The Missing Link"—the most entertaining and simple prize scheme ever evolved.

Every Reader of "John Bull" can enter.

What is the Missing Link? Here is the idea in a nutshell. In each week's issue of "Mrs. Bull" is given a verse from which one line is missing. All you have to do is to complete the verse. Find what you consider to be the cleverest and aptest line, send it in and win a prize. The following is this week's verse:—

Said Hardup to his wife, "My dear,
Whitsuntide will soon be here.
Oh, would that we could go away

.....

Readers of JOHN BULL can make use of the free coupon below, which fill in and send *with a postal order for 6d.* to "Mrs. Bull," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., by Tuesday, May 23. Mark your envelope "Link." Ten big cash prizes will be awarded to the owners of the ten best lines, and various cash prizes to those next in order of merit.

Read the Conditions below.

1. Send a line to complete the above verse.
2. All lines must be written on the coupon below, additional coupons to be taken from JOHN BULL or "Mrs. Bull," but all should be sent in one envelope.
3. For every two lines you send you must remit a Postal Order for Sixpence and each Postal Order should be made payable to the Editor, "Mrs. Bull," and should be crossed "and Co."
4. All the money received (less 10 per cent. for working expenses) will be divided amongst the successful competitors.
5. To the senders of the ten best lines, Large Cash Prizes will be awarded, and other Cash Prizes to numbers of others sending the next best lines. *Not less than £100 will be awarded this week, but it may be considerably more.*
6. In everything connected with the Competition the Editor's decision will be absolutely final, and readers may enter only on that clear understanding. No correspondence whatever can be entered into in connection with this competition.

Remember you can send two lines for each Sixpence that you remit. You are not bound to send two. One alone may win.

All lines must reach "Mrs. Bull," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., by Tuesday, May 23rd.

Mark your envelopes "Link."

FREE COUPON.

COUPON No. 8, closing Tuesday, May 23.

MISSING LINK COMPETITION.

Line suggested .....

Second Line suggested .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

No. of Postal Order .....

Fill it up NOW, and Make Money!

TO H.M. THE KING

"Black & White" Whisky

Jas. Buchanan & Co., Ltd.,
Glasgow & London.

Robinson & Cleaver's

IRISH LINEN

Irish Linen Handkerchiefs.

No. 27.—Ladies' all-linen, hemstitched, American size (about 13ins. square), with ¼-in. hem, 5/3 per doz.

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No. 20.—Gentlemen's cambric Handkerchiefs, tape or corded borders, about 21 ins. square, 5/3 per doz.

No. 60.—Gentlemen's Initial Handkerchiefs, pure linen, finely hemstitched, about 19½ ins. square, with ½-in. hem, 8/6 per doz.

Irish Collars and Shirts.

"Castle" Collars, Linen faced, single shapes 4/11, double shapes 5/11 per dozen. "Matchless" Shirts with four-fold fronts and cuffs, for dress or day wear, each, 5/11.

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The Sign of the Perfect Bicycle

The Rudge-Whitworth Open Hand is the sign of the perfect bicycle, as ridden by H.M. King George and H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

Among its many exclusive features are All-Steel Flush-Joint Frame, Rust-proof Finish, Concentric Bracket Bearings, Electric Welded Mudguards, the Open-Hand Chain Wheel, Improved Speed Gears, the Easiest of Easy Monthly Payments.

The Cyclist's Encyclopædia, a new edition just published, with its large folding chart of interchangeable parts, is the perfect guide to the perfect bicycle. Post free from

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LONDON DEPOTS:—230 Tottenham Court Road, W
23 Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

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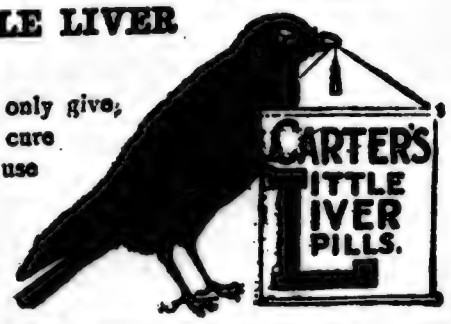
BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. KING GEORGE

The Army of Constipation
IS GROWING SMALLER EVERY DAY.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

are responsible—they not only give relief—they permanently cure **Constipation.** Millions use them for **Biliousness, Indigestion, Sick Headache, Sallow Skin.**



Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price.
GENUINE must bear Signature.

Brent Good

CAPTAIN A. J. M. (Paisley).—Your *chestnut* is too hot and mouldy for us.

A. B. (Leyton) applied to Marshall's Bureau, 228, Shaftesbury Avenue, for a *situation at* the Car Works, *Ottawa*, and was promised work all the year round as coach or car-painter, at the rate of 11½d. per hour for ten hours a day. We should advise him to hesitate until he knows the precise nature of the guarantee.

J. M. (West Benwell) writes: "Would you kindly try and gain for me an answer to this all-important question, *What is truth?*" Poor old Pilate failed to obtain satisfaction in this respect some nineteen centuries ago. All we can say is that if you see it in JOHN BULL, it is so.

"CANADA" (Penge).—Wrong as usual. We at home must play up to them.

G. C. (Hastings) answered an advertisement inviting "a few smart clerks to devote a few minutes' spare time daily, in return for which we will keep them well supplied with cigarettes, cigars and tobacco." In reply, he received circulars from the *State Trading Co.*, Victoria Works, Padiham, Lancs., inviting him to take part in a touting campaign on the *snow-ball system*.

T. R. (Chelmsford) is a Brazilian who "most emphatically takes exception to the rumour that the *insecurity of* white women *in Brazil* is almost as bad as in Argentina."

E. P. (Leamington Spa) brings an unusual charge against the Post Office. On April 20th he wired £5 to a friend, who was refused payment because he could not furnish proof of identity. This sounds strange, because the usual plan is to be content with asking the name of the sender. But if it is true that this particular sender was unable to obtain a refund twelve days later, there is certainly ground for serious complaint, as people who *telegraph money* usually do so because they are in a hurry. Why not write and complain to the Secretary of the Post Office?

Miss D. L. (London, W.C.) is a working girl who answered an advertisement of *cheap dentistry* inserted by Miss Gordon, Secretary of Lady Reid's Medical Aid Society, Ltd., 524, Oxford Street. She found the prices excessive, and was "most rudely insulted" when she said that she was not prepared to pay even half the amount asked. Medical aid usually proves expensive—in meal or in malt.

C. G. N. (Great Yarmouth) urgently needs £20 to £25 to enable him to settle down in October or November, and asks our advice about obtaining this sum by *gambling*. Even if his information be "unusually good," we should advise him to hesitate, or he must be prepared to risk the loss of all his savings. But if he likes to take a sporting chance, far be it from us to discourage a little flutter.

"AN OLD EMPLOYEE" discounts the praise given to *Peek, Frean and Co.* by another of our correspondents, and says they think nothing of discharging men after 21 years' service without any sort of pension. He says the firm made £80,000 profit last year, mainly through boy and girl labour, and that a special spy is put on to prevent any worker from eating a biscuit.

"AGENT" (Ilford).—We know it can't be done on such poor pay—at least, honestly.

T. R. (Kingsland Road) paid £16 8s. in 6d. weekly premiums to the *Liverpool Victoria Legal Friendly Society* on a life policy to receive £8 17s. Being in want of money, she applied to stop paying. The Secretary pointed out that "from the payer's point of view it is, of course, to be regretted that such a considerable sum should have been paid in premiums in excess of the amount assured; but this is frequently the case on old lives where the premium is fairly high on account of the considerable risk." So he offered nothing in cash—only a fully-paid policy for £3. Our correspondent's comment is: "No wonder our excellent Will Crooks can advocate a minimum 30s. wage while his society holds our money and he meanwhile tours the world with his wife." Order, order!

OUR DUMB FRIENDS' LEAGUE informs us that, for the last three years, it has awarded gold, silver and bronze *medals for acts of heroism on behalf of animals*. But we should still like to see this done by some recognised public authority.

J. HARRISON (Port Said).—Our publisher could post a copy of JOHN BULL to you abroad weekly for 8s. 8d. a year, including postage.

D. D. O. (Witham).—We have by no means done with the *Akbar School*.

"AULD REEKIE" (Edinburgh).—It is no part of our policy to advertise *our journalistic imitators and detractors*—except through the medium of the LAW COURTS.

"A CHIEF EXAMINER OF COMPETITIONS" says that £9 does seem a lot for a *scrutiny in a football competition*, but that if we knew as much as he does about faked claims we should not consider it a penny too much.

"ERNE" (Calne) saw an advertisement from E. White Co., 106, Durham Road, Wimbledon, London, offering to buy *ladies' hair-combings* at 4d. to 6d. per oz. She sent them "a parcel of good tails," but has received no money and no answer to repeated applications. Yet the advertisement continues to appear.

J. W. (Bradford-on-Avon) states that the recent small-pox outbreak commenced with a vaccinated subject and that the greater part of the victims had undergone the operation which, she says, was to protect them for ever against small-pox.

X. Y. Z. (Durham).—It is nice, but not for us. A holiday at Cannes costs too much.

"A READER" sends us an article in a morning paper by *Justin McCarthy* on the Dickens anniversary, and points out that the words "I," "me" and "my" occur no less than 52 times in 100 lines. The Dickens they do!

F. J. H. (Whitstable) inquires about the *Globe Clothing Trust*, 183 and 185, Edgware Road. He and a friend each sent one guinea for suits of clothes, which have not yet come to hand. They have, however, received receipts and requests not to write and hurry up the firm. Evidently they are expected to trust the Trust.

F. McC. (Kingsland Road) says he had *no Census paper* left at his house, which contains nine persons. He wonders whether others were similarly ignored.

H. R. (Melbourne) writes, "Pray consider the feelings of the few thousands of England's can't-get-a-living-wage people out here when you try to condemn our Queensland beef. Medical authorities state the *nodules* you say are detrimental to one's health are found *in beef carcases* all the world over." At this rate, we shall have to live on nuts.

F. D. (Bournemouth) says that *Frank Turner, the tipster*, announces in a circular that he gave Mercutio for the Lincolnshire Handicap, whereas, as a matter of fact, he telegraphed Cinderello to F. D. Perhaps he gave both.

[We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.]

A Salvation Army Worker

Nervousness, Neuralgia, Rheumatism—

Absolute *sincerity* in her dealings with others has made hundreds of people rely implicitly on the advice of Mrs. Annie Jeeves, the famous Salvation Army worker. It is a hard and fast rule with Mrs. Jeeves to recommend only the article she *knows and has thoroughly tested*, and her vigorous appreciation of Phosferine is a valuable guarantee of the exceptional efficacy of the Royal tonic. In her own person Mrs. Jeeves found that Phosferine gave her entire freedom from nervousness, neuralgic pains, and weakness, and by her advice many poor toilers have to thank Phosferine for being restored to the ranks of the workers. In families where every penny is important, Mrs. Jeeves has proved Phosferine to be of magnificent service in overcoming Rheumatism, Lumbago, and Nerve Afflictions which cripple the breadwinner.

Are Quite Cured.

Mrs. Annie Jeeves, Beech Tree, Walderslade, near Chatham, writes: "Phosferine has been a great boon to me when suffering from extreme nervousness, neuralgic pains, and general weakness, and so repeatedly has it raised me from ill-health to good health, that I always look to it for assistance in my work among the poor. In my hands it has been the means of restoring many a despondent sufferer and enabling them to again take their place among the workers. Frequently have come under my notice terrible cases of Rheumatism, Lumbago, Nerve Pains, to only mention a few, in which the breadwinner has been reduced to a condition bordering on hopelessness. In such I have found Phosferine of inestimable value, and much to my own thankfulness, and to that of the sufferers, they have been enabled by its aid to again return to their occupations."—November 9, 1910.

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Neuralgia	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Rheumatism	Maternity Weakness	Malaria
Brain-fag	Nervous Headaches	Sleeplessness
Indigestion	Sciatica	Nervousness

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

THE ROYAL TONIC.

To the Royal Family	H.M. the King of Greece
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And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size

FURNITURE, SECOND-HAND.

PRIVATE SALE.

The NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET FURNITURE and ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.)

will SELL the following elegant MODERN and ANTIQUE FURNITURE, just removed from Walmer Place, St. Marylebone, Taunton Road, Lee, Hanover Square, the contents of 50 rooms. Any article can be stored free for 12 months, and can be purchased separately and delivered in town or country free of all charge. Good opportunity for dealers, boarding-house keepers, connoisseurs, and those requiring good second-hand furniture, at less than one-fourth its value.

THE DRAWING-ROOMS

furniture, which is almost new, comprises, amongst other things, a French gilt Louis XIV. drawing-room suite, upholstered in silk, designed by Monsieurs Watteau, of Paris, worth 60gs., accept 20gs.; a unique satin-wood drawing-room set, comprising cabinet with drawers enclosed, centre table, overmantel, Empire settee, two lounge chairs and six occasional chairs, all upholstered in French silk, accept 23gs., worth treble; Chippendale design drawing-room suite, 10gs.; also a Sheraton design set, 12gs.; two Chesterfields, upholstered in a fine art tapestry, convertible ends, one 40s. and the other 60s.; 5ft. stuffover settee, with rounded ends, upholstered in flowered silk, on turned gilt legs and castors, 6gs.; six divan club easy chairs, 25s. each; ten pretty and exquisite design occasional drawing-room chairs, 6s. each; very fine old Dutch inlaid cabinet; two elegant Vernis Martin cabinets; two buhl cabinets (fully inlaid), French writing bureau and a magnificent specimen cabinet, fitted with glass doors; grand piano by Broadwood, 15gs.; also grand piano by Collard and Collard, 12gs.; a magnificent instrument by Gustave Richter, £14, and a fine tone piano, £10; grand piano by C. Bechstein—no offer refused if reasonable; a brilliant tone, full compass, iron frame, trichord, boudoir grand pianoforte, in rosewood case, on fluted legs, by Steinway and Sons, No. 74,606; American organ; piano-player, by Hardman.

40 BEDROOMS COMPLETE.

Very massive square pillar all-brass bedstead, full-size, pure hair mattress, &c., from 60s.; an Italian square brass tube bedstead, 8gns.; black and brass bedstead, 30s.; 10 most massive and elaborate bedroom suites in Heppelwhite, Queen Anne, Chippendale, Sheraton, ash, white enamel, oak, &c., from 70s. each; 5ft. mahogany kneehole dressing-table, fitted with swing mirror, 30 by 21, on pedestal supports, 12gs.; washstand en suite, with vein marble table top and tile back, £4 15s.; towel rail, en suite, 15s. three occasional chairs en suite, 45s.; 6ft. mahogany wardrobe, fitted rail 10 pegs, bonnet drawer, two sliding trays, five long and two short drawers silvered glass centre, two panel doors, 9gs.; 4ft. Spanish mahogany chest of four long drawers, shaped top, with column supports, on plinth, £3 10s.; mahogany shaving stand, with circular adjustable mirror, 25s.; 3ft. 6in. birch washstand, 10s.; Sheraton design bedroom suite, 6gns.; large size fully inlaid suite, 10gs.; and one, 15gs.; three old antique chests, two tallboy chests, two very fine satinwood bedroom suites, inlaid with kingwood, &c., worth 200gs.; accept 110gs.; 6ft. Sheraton design bedroom suite, 25gs., worth 60gs.; mahogany cheval glass, 5gs.; 3ft. mahogany robe, two bedside tables, &c.

DINING-ROOMS, SMOKE-ROOMS, LOUNGES, &c.

An elaborate carved oak dining-room set, consisting of two Elizabethan design carved oak chairs, six small chairs to match, most elegant and massive carved oak sideboard, with bevelled plate-glass back, extending dining table, all to match, six very fine specimens of reproductions of Chippendale chairs upholstered in crimson leather; also Sheraton design set, Heppelwhite set, a very fine Queen Anne dining-room set, 8gs.; mahogany-frame high-back open arm-chair upholstered in crimson leather, 3gs.; stuffover couch upholstered in crimson morocco, 4gs.; mahogany-frame open arm-chair in morocco, £2 15s.; six walnut-frame dining chairs, seats upholstered en suite, 6gs.; two oak bookcases, a morning-room set in solid oak, comprising oak Welsh dresser, with copper fitments, and a William and Mary design suite upholstered in red leather, table, overmantel, all to match, accept 13gs.; 6ft. 6in. oak sideboard, 4ft. chiffonnière, 5ft. walnut dining table, seven leaves, 4ft. 6in. grained walnut writing table, ormolu clock, a real Chippendale corner cupboard, three dining tables, opening to 16ft. from 60s.; mahogany dinner wagon, a convertible billiard-dining table with balls, cues, &c.; an old oak coffer; two grandfather's clocks chiming on tubes; the garniture de cheminée, of Egyptian design, in rough marble and ormolu, comprising clock in sarcophagus case, with female bust and pair of vase-shaped two-light candelabra with bird supports and marble base, £5 5s.; morocco Chesterfield and two club easys to match; Turkey and Persian carpets, fine specimens, also Axminster, Brussels, and other carpets, from 20s. each; about 16 pairs very fine silk curtains and mantel drapery to match; a rare collection of china, including a very fine Wedgwood dessert service; Dresden coffee set, Sevres Dresden, and other china; collection of fine old silver and Sheffield plate in Georgian and other designs; canteen of silver; 100 pieces, 7gs.; two very fine sets of English cut table glass; large quantity of bed and table linen, curtains, etc.; some rare oil and water-colour paintings and engravings; several pieces of plate by Mappin and Webb; two plated candelabras and three pairs candlesticks; some very fine and unique bear and tiger skins mounted as rugs, full heads; 10 cases of wines, assorted; very fine cigar cabinet; Parisian victoria, miniature brougham, and two motor-cars; two wine bins, etc. All can be seen, and are being sold without any reserve, every day from nine till nine, except Saturday, when we close at seven, at

THE NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET
FURNITURE AND ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.),
AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS,

92, 93, 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W. One door from Oxford Street, three minutes from Tottenham Court Road and Regent Street, and adjoining all the principal Tubes. Tele. 1,307, Central. £10,000 worth of genuine second-hand furniture always on view. Second-hand furniture bought to any extent.

The LARGEST STOCK of GENUINE SECOND-HAND ANTIQUE and MODERN FURNITURE in ENGLAND. WE HAVE ALWAYS on HAND £150,000 WORTH of GOOD and SUPERIOR SECOND-HAND FURNITURE ALWAYS to be DISPOSED OF. CATALOGUES NOW READY. FULL PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION.

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a delicious increase of health that makes the whole body tingle with

NEW LIFE.

Even the first wineglassful creates a definite and substantial degree of

RENEWED HEALTH,

and each succeeding wineglassful promotes and maintains

INCREASED VIGOUR

that fortifies the body and enables you to resist illness and regain a wealth of glorious health.

TEST IT FREE!

A liberal trial bottle will be sent on receipt of the coupon below.

Coleman & Co., Ltd., W 44, Wincarnis Works, Norwich.	*Name* .....
Please send me a Free Bottle of "Wincarnis." I enclose three penny stamps to pay postage.	*Address* .....
	J. B. ..... May 20 '11.

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CYCLES AND MOTORS
See the Brake is here on your next bicycle—make sure of getting a TRIUMPH.
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JUNON AROMATIC BATH MUSTARD

Adds *zest* to the bath. Adds a piquancy, a deliciousness, that is delightfully refreshing and invigorating. Imparts a delicate perfume to the skin. Softens the hardest water. Has a tonic effect on the nerves and circulation. Prevents chill after violent exercise or exposure to inclement weather.

Sole Manufacturers—

JUNON Ltd., 57, Marsham Street, Westminster, S.W.

RACING NOTES.

By W. Lottings.
["Larry Lynx" of The People, "Double U. L." of Lottings Weekly, and "Magpie" of The Globe.]

Not all bargains.

We often see horses knocked down at racecourse auctions at very nominal prices, and believe, unless we have been present, that they must have been extraordinary bargains. Things in this respect are not what they seem, especially on paper, and unless one knows something about a horse it is a most dangerous thing to do to buy anything that is submitted for what it will fetch.

Racing abroad.

There are two race meetings each year in Georgetown, British Guiana, and two in Barbice, the adjoining county, each programme including two or three races for thoroughbreds, the prizes rarely exceeding £50. There are additionally, at different times of the year, race meetings held at Trinidad, Barbadoes, St. Kitts, etc., at which meetings there are also races for thoroughbreds, so that the horses might really be kept in training throughout the year. Two or three American jockeys are in evidence there, but, as a rule, the local boys are procured.

Medley.

Mr. R. Leys is the best amateur cross-country jockey in South America.

Everybody among trainers, owners and jockeys has to get a good beating in turn.

The end of the week, and particularly the last race of the day, are all-important in their result.

How usual it is for backers on a racecourse to just run across the wrong people at the wrong time.

If a horse gets into the habit of running second in handicaps, it may well do it without limit practically the season through.

If you bet on a race that the second will get it, in anticipation of an objection, you lose your money even if no protest is lodged.

Prophetic.

The second portion of the usual rounds North and South. The earlier running is bound to have much influence, as nearly all the same horses are in at both meetings, and I can only say I rather fancy 17 in the Stewards' Plate at Salisbury to-day (Thursday) and take the like view of Kia Ora for the Romney Handicap at Windsor, for with a rather stronger jockey up under a higher minimum, this is a three-year-old that will win a similar event. I am placed in the usual predicament of having to discuss the Royal Handicap some days ahead, and in the meantime the mare is entered and may have run for the Somersetshire Stakes at Bath. Subject entirely therefore to what she has done, if started in the West Country, I must name

Anchora

as a real good thing, and only in her possible absence turn to Greenback as the class animal, even under top weight, should the little horse go for a handicap. At Lewes and Brighton respectively I think that Valide and Feathered Fiction should at least get placed in their respective minor selling handicaps.

H. GREEN (MEMBER OF PRINCIPAL SPORTING BODIES.)
ACME HOUSE, COLCHESTER.
Established 24 years, same address, under own name.
Credit Accounts opened where good references can be given
Commissions executed from 5s. to any amount.

What Pleasure it is to
BEAT the BOOKIE.
How many hundreds of thousands have failed. Fail no more. Use the "Click Method." First week, this Flat Season, £85 net profit, and £70 for week ending May 5. October last indicates a
WEEKLY AVERAGE of £71.
Not a penny piece asked for "Click Method," nor our daily wires, direct to Bookie if desired. We stand on bedrock with you, relying wholly and solely on the net profits earned for you; i.e., after all losses are deducted. And unless you make a minimum net profit of £10 weekly we do not come in at all. No other firm in the World does this. Even daily stakes. No supercilious adding and dividing the same. No swank about the "Click Method," or we should suffer heavy losses for wires, information, etc. Send stamp for details. London list completed. Letters only.
Jack & Woods, 35, Surrey street, Strand, London.

PROFITABLE RACING! EVERY DAY A WINNING DAY.
I have evolved a system of supporting horses, which, when used in conjunction with the exceedingly reliable information I am in a position to obtain, is proving well-nigh infallible. The net gain last season was
£878 16s. 0d.
on a bank of £5 and out of a total of 184 days' racing (dealing with One race only per day) if won on 118 days. For particulars of past working and terms apply Mr. F. PERCIVAL, Argyle Chambers, 108, Charing Cross Road, LONDON, W.
FOR LATEST RESULTS, see my daily ad. in *Sporting Chronicle*.

THE OPEN ROAD.
A REMARKABLE BOOK on "SYSTEMS," written by a retired Signalman. This handsomely illustrated Book will show you how you may avoid Turf losses. It will prove to you the advantages of Systematic investments. How the writer in the long night hours in the Signal Box discovered a System which has won him a fortune. It will not only show you how this fortune has been made, but will show you how you may do the same. No need for you to delay. The Book is free for stamped address.
Write now to "PLAYFAIR," Radford Rd. Leamington Spa.

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COLL & BIRCHALL
The well-known Liverpool Sportsmen.
FLUSHING, HOLLAND.
SEND POSTCARD (1d.) FOR RULES.
NO LIMIT. NO COMMISSION.
The principals may be seen at all principal meetings.
THE FIRM WHOM YOU ALL KNOW.
CREDIT ACCOUNTS OPENED ON APPROVED REFERENCE.
Apply, Crossley Buildings, South Castle Street, Liverpool.

J. McLAUCHLAN,
Estab. 19 years. { Turf Accountant, etc., FLUSHING, HOLLAND.
Write for Price List, Rules, Ready-reckoner, etc.
FUTURE EVENTS A SPECIALITY.
CREDIT ACCOUNTS: Write 13, Princes Street, Edinburgh.
TELEGRAMS:—"Galley," Edinburgh.
Letter Commissions, 3, Crown Place, Leith. Payments Nightly.

DAVID BRAY 21, BREWER STREET, W. (only London Address) and at FLUSHING, HOLLAND.
NO LIMIT. Place Betting One Third the Odds Five Runners when Favourite Starts Odds On.
THE SPORTSMAN'S TURF ACCOUNTANT.
WRITE TO-DAY FOR BOOK OF RULES, POST FREE. ON APPLICATION.

BRAVO! RACING STUD!! BRAVO!!!
Breeders and Dealers in Bloodstock. Established 1900. Has won applause from "Sporting Life," L. Lynx of the "People," John Bull, etc. The "Racing World" says:—"Big wins for years past." Latest Results of our "Two" Horse Wires:—May 2nd, DIK DIK, 11-2, won; MOSTAR, 6-1, won; May 3rd, Teyateyo, 33-1, and; MYRIAD, 11-10, won; May 4th, PROTESTANT BOY, 2-1, won; ST. GIRONS, 5-1, won; May 5th, BONAPARTE, 4-1, won; stake 6, lost; May 6th, DIAMOND STUD, 5-1, won; WOLF'S HOPE, 100-7, won. Post £1 10s. for 5; or £2 10s. for 10; or £4 for 20 two horse wires. Or post 5s. for Monday's special, giving FOUR "BIG" Money-Making Gems for next week—MORE GLENSIDER, 20-1; NELSIONS, 20-1; MAAZ, 20-1; MOSTARS, 6-1, etc., or £1 pays for the whole season's big "tips," no further expense. Why do the bookies fink the Racing Stud? Because it is on the High Road to Turn 'em Green.
87, High Road, Turnham Green, London.

PAUL COVERDALE, TURF ACCOUNTANT.
(Sole Proprietor, Charles Villiers Chapman.)
"*One of the largest operators of the present day.*"—*Vide* THE PRESS.
NO LIMIT. NO COMMISSION.
Books open on all future events. Double events a speciality.
Write for my Illustrated Book of Sporting Records for 1911, the most interesting Guide and Record on Sporting matters ever offered to the public; also my terms for Credit Accounts to my sole address: 26-28, MADDOX STREET, LONDON, W.
Telegrams: "Repayable, London." 'Phones, 890 Mayfair, (10 Lines).

TRUTH, April 27th, 1910, says:—
". . . I have never had any reason to doubt his readiness and ability to meet his engagements."
BERT FRY, FLUSHING, HOLLAND.
DONT OPEN A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT UNLESS CONVENIENT.
Send 1s. up to £2, and your commissions are executed at S.P. if post-marked before 1 p.m. DAY OF RACE. NO LIMIT. PLACE BETTING 1, 2, if only five runners. PLACE BETTING whether odds on favourite or not.

ROMANO'S
399, STRAND.
The Paradise of all good gourmets.

"WINNERS AND HOW TO FIND THEM."
By CHICKWEED. A Pamphlet showing how easy it is for every man to become his own Tipster. Post free, 2/-. Press unanimous in their praise
INNES BARTON, 13, HENRIETTA ST., STRAND, W.C.

DEPEND UPON IT, THERE ARE STRONG REASONS WHY THOUSANDS PLACE THEIR COMPLETE RELIANCE HERE, AND ONE STRONG REASON WHY YOU SHOULD DO SO ALSO IS THAT

NO SINGLE CLIENT EVER YET FAILED TO ACHIEVE THE SUCCESS PROMISED

to all those who act upon

ALLEN'S DAILY SYSTEM WIRES

AND

Allen's Method of Investment!

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My "System Wires" constitute the up-to-date, well-informed Turf investor's sole means of safe and invariably remunerative investment. By these unique wires immense fortunes are being piled up in hundreds upon hundreds of cases. Please remember that in no single instance can racing ever fail to yield a prompt and gratifying return for the outlay of even the most trivial capital, provided you act according to the "System Wires" and my method of investment. The voice of criticism is silenced by the continual and conclusive demonstrations of success which every single client's experiences afford—for every single client, without exception, who follows my "System Wires" and method of investment reaps regular profits as a direct and inevitable consequence!!!

LET ME RAISE UP AN INCOME FOR YOU NOW,

One moment's attention every day is all YOU need to give! I undertake to raise up your income. You merely decide what capital you will employ. Perhaps you would like to make a trial first with only nominal capital. Well, thousands of my clients started with £3 only! However, I definitely

Assure You a Regular Income.

I assure you a regular income each season, and I am prepared to prove to you that every single client of mine is guaranteed in the same terms and never do I fail to carry out this unique proposition. If you can find otherwise I will

REFUND YOU YOUR MONEY IN FULL !!!

It will, therefore, cost you nothing to test this assurance. Everything in connection with my unique business is

CONSPICUOUSLY GENUINE!

EVERYONE CAN MAKE A FORTUNE!!!

You Can Start with £3 Capital

Free! Free!!

The Great "Allen" Book

containing 52 pages, full details and COMPLETE SELECTIONS 1909 & 1910 also SELECTIONS for 1911 being a record of permanent,

Astounding Consistency

Write your name and address and the words "John Bull" on a postcard and send on to-day. You will receive the book in plain, sealed envelope. Read this invaluable book which PROVES HOW RACING PAYS.

You Can Make Over £10 Daily!!

MAKE A SUCCESSFUL START TO-DAY!

RACING—EASY, SAFE PAYING RACING—BASED ON SYSTEMATIC ADVICE DAILY WHICH HAS ACHIEVED

THE SUPREME REPUTATION

FOR RELIABILITY—THAT IS

the Way to Build Yourself a Fortune.

REMEMBER! you will be certainly

Successful from the very Start!!!

WRITE TO-DAY TO—

C. ALLEN,

Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, London, W.C.

Telephone: Central 15227. Telegrams: "Reglincom, London."

KEMO RAZOR SHARPENER

Converts your old strop into a perfect edge-producer—solves the problem of shaving in comfort every day without the slightest smarting of the skin—is easily applied and will last as long as a man needs a razor—price 6d. **Kemo Strops in fine leather, specially prepared with Kemolime, 2s., 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d.**

KEMO CO., 17, Billiter St., London

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What is Your Number?

Our Weekly Ballot for 50 Helpers at Two Guineas Apiece.

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL **of specified date,** bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all work done.

The following claims have been received for our issues of April 1st and 8th:—

ORLANDO JONES, Boat House, Ward End Pool, Birmingham. No. 107,722. April 1st.

C. L. KNIGHT, 11, Ospringe Road, Kentish Town, N.W. No. 75,617. April 8th.

T. J. WILLIAMS, 8, Philip Street, Blaenavon, Mon. No. 352,701. April 8th.

A. N. SMITH, c/o Mr. Hall, The Rise, Sunningdale, Berks. No. 626,572. April 8th.

MRS. A. BRYANT, 76, Vaughan Road, Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell, S.E. No. 620,038. April 8th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of April 22nd:—

3044	100938	225224	309727	699985
17210	121696	240682	432097	703691
32970	134875	247446	447062	720009
41834	155315	254264	468378	729596
57892	170107	262521	485424	742242
67702	183075	279674	574735	749519
76906	203195	307274	546710	762025
78374	211202	337291	578254	764287
86482	219914	359353	612123	811233
94942	221963	377892	664948	822775

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED JUNE 17TH (PUBLISHED JUNE 15TH).

The John Bull League.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

Name .....

Address .....

....

"By Far the Greatest and Most Reliable Turf Accountant in Existence."—*Looking Glass.*

Douglas Stuart

102-104, New Oxford Street, London, and Flushing, Holland,

WHO PAID OUT

Ten Thousand to Ten

Has AGAIN ORIGINATED an Innovation for the Benefit of Backers.
He will accept Commissions with NO LIMIT on the following races—

French 1,000 *and* 2,000 *Guineas*	*May* 14	*Baden Baden Meeting*	*August* 25
French "Oaks"	*June* 4	*Paris "Omnium"*	*September* 17
French Derby	*June* 11	*Prix du Conseil Municipal*	*October* 8
Paris Meeting	*June* 24	*Baldoyle, Ireland*	*June* 5, 6
Grand Prix de Paris	*June* 25	*Leopardstown, Ireland*	*June* 9, 10
Prix de la Republique	*July* 2	*Phoenix Park, Ireland*	*June* 17
Ostend Races.		*Curragh Camp, Ireland*	*June* 27, 28, 29
Deauville and Trouville	*August*	*Phoenix Park, Ireland*	*July* 15

or on any other Continental or Irish Races, by arrangement.

Don't wait till the eve of the race and wonder where you can get your Commissions executed, but write to-day and

OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT

with "The Prince of Turf Accountants" (*vide* **"Black & White,"** *April* 22, 1911),

— OR —

SEND a DEPOSIT for ANY AMOUNT to FLUSHING and be prepared.

NO LIMIT ANY RACE WIN OR PLACE
even if the Favourite starts Odds On.

33 or 50 to 1 to a "Place" will be paid if returned, even though your Turf Accountants limiting your winnings to 2 to 1 a "Place" over the same race. Examine YOUR book of rules!!

Up to £25 each way may be wired (by arrangement) up to the time of "Off."

GENEROSITY.

The TEST of GENEROSITY is not in praising oneself in Advertisements, but in Paying the FULL PRICE, on EVERY RACE, WIN or PLACE, even if Favourite starts "Odds On." Examine YOUR book of rules at once.

RELIABILITY.

What you WIN you will GET, even if £10,000 or £100,000. Douglas Stuart has not thought it necessary to state his "Bank Balance" in public, but a win of £10,000 paid immediately "ON DEMAND" speaks for itself.

WRITE TO-DAY FOR

CREDIT ACCOUNTS
To 102, NEW OXFORD STREET, LONDON.

DEPOSIT BUSINESS
FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

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NO "PRICE UNOBTAINABLE" Circular ever issued.

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